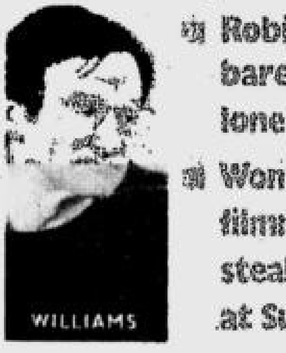
US PR firm to polish Gloria's global image

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 4

IN *Saturday* SPECIAL


WILLIAMS

- Robin Williams bares his lonesome side
- Women filmmakers steal the show at Sundance

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

website: www.inq7.net

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Saturday, January 26, 2002 ★ 54 pages / 4 sections / vol.17 / no. 49 P15

Key witness in tax scam now in hiding

Her identity was revealed by the Ombudsman

WELCOMING the presence of the stars and stripes in Cabatangan, Zamboanga City, are a mother and child, who were former hostages of the Misuari faction of the MNLF.
DENNIS SABANGAN

U.S. EM
TROOPS
LAYASIN!
GABRIELA
OF
CONDEMNING the eagle in the US Embassy seal, the women's group Gabriela calls it "kahalayan ng agila (eagle's obscenity)," a play on words of Balikatan's codename, "Kalayaan-Agila," as they fear the rise in prostitution and child abuse with the arrival of US troops.
JESS YUSON

By John Nery

A VITAL witness in the P5.3-billion tax credit scam "unnecessarily exposed" by the Office of the Ombudsman, has gone into hiding and now refuses to cooperate, sources in the Special Presidential Task Force investigating the scam said yesterday.

The witness, whose testimony was described in an internal document of the Office of the Ombudsman as "a good lead to strengthen the tax credit scam cases," blamed the Task Force for not providing her "enough protection," the sources said.

The witness was specifically named in the complaint filed by the Office of the Ombudsman's Fact-Finding and Intelligence Bureau on Oct. 17, 2001—contrary to an agreement reached between the Task Force and the Ombudsman to keep her identity secret.

Last Wednesday, Rep. Oscar Moreno accused Ombudsman Aniano Desierto of whitewashing the tax credit scam by filing a deliberately weak case. Among other reasons, Moreno cited that Desierto, "in a move designed to really weaken the case, unnecessarily exposed a vital witness by naming her in the complaint despite the earlier agreement to withhold her identity."

KEY/A16

FAUSTINO CHINGKOE: Allegedly benefited P2.3billion in tax credit certificates.

Gloria keeps hands off, but Solon asks her to step in

By Christine Avendaño, Carlito Pablo and Clarissa Batino

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo is keeping her hands off the multibillion-peso tax credit controversy involving Ombudsman Aniano Desierto.

But Rep. Oscar Moreno, who accused Desierto of whitewashing a tax credit case investigated by the Special Presidential Task Force 156, said the President should intervene.

"With due respect, the President can't take a hands-off policy because it is her duty to ensure the integrity of the investigation and prosecution of those involved in the scam," Moreno said in a phone interview.

Moreno is urging the President to ask Desierto to delegate the case to other government prosecutors—the same way he did in the plunder cases against deposed President Joseph Estrada.

Ms Macapagal said it was her policy not to meddle with the workings of the judiciary, Congress and the constitutional agencies.

"The Ombudsman is constitutionally independent of the President and I respect constitutional independence," she said.

"If you notice I don't meddle with the Supreme Court. I don't meddle with the Comelec (Commission on Elections) and

GLORIA/A17

Pope leads interfaith prayer for world peace

ASSISI, Italy—The leaders of most of the world's major faiths carried lighted oil lamps signifying their hopes for global peace here Thursday as they joined Pope John Paul II at a ceremony marking the world day of prayer.

The Pontiff was joined by clerics of faiths ranging from Christianity to Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and traditional African religions in a call for an end to all war, terror and violence at the gathering in Assisi.

"Violence never again! War never again! Terrorism never again!" urged the Pope, who had invited religious leaders to the birthplace of St. Francis to pray for peace following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

"In God's name, may all reli-

POPE/A4

US publicist to polish GMA global image

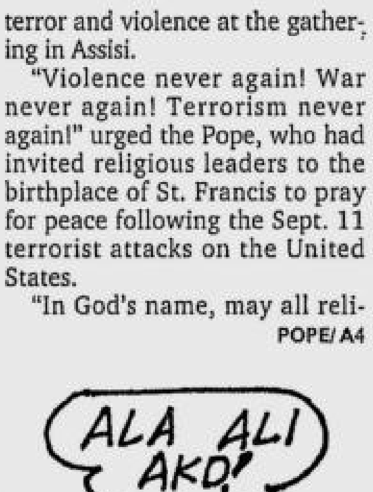
By Fe Zamora
INQ7.net

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has hired a US-based public relations firm at $1 million to take care of her publicity and media exposure during her 10-day swing in Europe and the United States starting next week.

Among the world's top PR agencies, Burston and Marsteller has been tasked by the President's handlers to launch a public relations campaign designed to "enhance her global image," the INQ7.net has learned from several highly reliable sources.

To support this PR campaign, several international advertising agencies with local counterparts have been tapped by Ms Macapagal to produce ads and commercials for publication

US/A4



Gloria: Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee

By Carlito Pablo and Philippa Rendel

A PRESIDENT who "floats like a butterfly and stings like a bee?"

Saying she intends to slug it all the way despite persistent criticisms against her, President Macapagal-

GLORIA/A4

Bush scolds US Senate for delay of envoy to RP

WASHINGTON—The Bush administration on Thursday chided the US Senate for the delay in confirming President George W. Bush's nominee as ambassador to the Philippines, saying his speedy appointment was important to the campaign against terrorism.

The US Senate's foreign relations committee has approved Frank Ricciardone's nomination, but it has yet to be put to a formal vote in the Democrat-controlled chamber, White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer said.

Ricciardone is among 20 of Bush's senior

BUSH/A16

Charter allows US troops to even fight Abus—Gloria

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Christine Herrera

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday declared that the Constitution would bear her out had she decided to allow US soldiers to fight the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan under "Balikatan 02-1."

She did not allow this as a matter of policy, and not because of legal restrictions, she said during an open forum with the Makati Business Club.

"The reason I don't want American soldiers to do combat is not (based on) constitutional parameters because I believe it will be justified even if they did. It's because it is the Philippine government's policy to let Filipino soldiers do the fighting," the President said.

"To me it is not a constitutional issue. It is a policy issue," she added.

The Constitution bans foreign troops and facilities in the country without a treaty. The 1951 RP-US Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) provides for joint military response if either country is attacked. The 1999 RP-US Visiting

CHARTER/A16

US prosecutor accuses Atong of deception

'Mr. Ang has ability and funds to probably go anywhere and everywhere in the world'

LAS VEGAS—Former Philippine presidential gambling adviser Charlie "Atong" Ang has deceived immigration officials and Las Vegas casinos and would flee if released on bail, a federal prosecutor said Thursday.

"Mr. Ang has the ability and funds to probably go anywhere and everywhere in the world," Assistant US Attorney Gregory Damm said during the second day of Ang's bail hearing.

The hearing before US District Magistrate Lawrence R. Leavitt was continued until Tuesday morning.

In Manila, Ang faces the capital offense of plunder, or the theft of at least P50 million in public funds. He is accused of funneling tobacco tax kickbacks and illegal payoffs from gambling to former president Joseph Estrada. The charges could bring him the death penalty.

Damm said Ang applied for a tourist visa in August 2001, but listed a California address on the application instead of his address in Las Vegas, where he had purchased a home.

Damm suggested Ang's visa never would have been approved if Immigration and Naturalization officials knew Ang had bought a home, an indication that he intended to stay in the United States.

Ang obtained credit at several Las Vegas casinos shortly after arriving in the United States last January, but listed a Philippines address on credit applications, Damm said.

Damm said it was deceptive for Ang not to disclose he had fled the country.

Ang has applied for political asylum with the INS office in Anaheim, California, claiming he fears for his life if he returns to the Philippines.

"Mr. Ang wasn't in fear of anything. . . He was pursuing his pleasure of gambling in Las Vegas and gambling in a pretty substantial way," Damm said.

Ang's lawyer Donald Etra suggested the casinos could have obtained Ang's Philippines address from his passport. Etra said his client has complied with the law and should be granted bail.

Damm countered that Ang did nothing to correct the information.

He said Ang has access to substantial amounts of money, as indicated by a $212,700 cash payment made to the Venetian hotel-casino Feb. 2, and should be denied bail.

"Mr. Ang is not trying to live openly and honestly."

Damm also suggested that Ang might have paid an INS agent to fast-track his visa application. *AP*

ANG

RIZAL DAY BOMBING

Murder raps filed vs 3 MILF men

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice yesterday filed multiple murder charges against three alleged members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front for the Rizal Day bombing of the Light Rail Transit more than a year ago.

The DOJ at the same time sought to withdraw the complaint against four other suspects in the bomb blast that tore through an LRT car in downtown Manila on Dec. 30, 2000, killing 12 persons and wounding 19 others.

"We are constrained to dismiss the case against the other respondents because we could not link them to the three accused," said state prosecutor Peter Ong, head of the six-person DOJ investigative team.

Ong identified the erstwhile suspects as Amir Dimaampai, Ibrahim Guindolongan, Roberto Onyot and Rogelio Cagadas.

Facing the new charges before the Manila Regional Trial Court upon recommendation of the National Bureau of Investigation are Hadji Onos, Efren Torres and Sammy Arinday, with listed addresses in Mabulong, Marawi City, Davao City and the former MILF stronghold of Camp Abubakar in Mindanao.

All three also face multiple frustrated murder and multiple attempted murder raps in connection with the bombing, one of five explosions that rocked the metropolis that day within a short span of time. All three accused remain at large.

The three suspects were not tagged in the four other bombings, however.

"With respect to the other bombings, we were constrained to dismiss the cases for insufficiency of evidence, especially after the NBI failed to submit the medical and death certificates of the victims in those incidents," Ong said.

According to the information filed by the DOJ, several witnesses identified Onos as the person who planted the bomb inside LRT coach no. 1037.

Witnesses Camid Cabugatan, Casan Sultan and Jailal Usman identified the three as members of the MILF.

Cabugatan said Onos and Arinday told him to recruit others to attend demonstrations against then President Joseph Estrada in Manila in exchange for P20,000 and a P200 daily allowance.

Cabugatan said that upon arrival in Manila from Mindanao, Torres ordered him and his companions to assemble the bombs that were to be used to destabilize the Estrada administration that was then reeling from the impeachment trial of the president.

The case against Onos was strengthened after several witnesses separately identified him as the man who hurriedly left the LRT station after allegedly leaving a blue backpack in the train.

"Give way, this is my stop and I'm getting off. You'd better do so, too," witness Anna Marie Velasquez quoted Onos as saying as he left the train. The bomb exploded just as the train reached the Blumentritt station.

Jalosjos' Munti office closed

By Christian V. Esguerra and Norman Bordadora

THREE days after the Supreme Court junked with finality the motion for reconsideration of his conviction for child rape, Romeo Jalosjos insisted yesterday he was still the representative of Zamboanga del Norte in Congress.

A two-thirds vote by members of the House, not the Supreme Court decision, would oust him from Congress, Jalosjos told a press conference at the National Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa.

Jalosjos said those who believe that the Supreme Court decision automatically expelled him from the Lower House "are treading dangerously on constitutional grounds."

But pending Jalosjos' formal ouster from Congress, prison officials have already padlocked his makeshift office at the NBP.

He got the office, complete with computers and other office equipment, when he was re-elected in 1998 despite his conviction by a Makati court one year earlier.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez ordered the dismantling of Jalosjos' office at the national penitentiary.

"I ordered NBP Director Ricardo Macala to disallow the office and to dismantle it. This morning, I expect the order to be implemented," Perez told reporters at a news briefing yesterday.

Perez said the Supreme Court upheld the lower court's decision and one of the accessory penalties to Jalosjos' crime was perpetual disqualification from public office.

"Therefore, he has no right to continue as a congressman and he has no right to an office. It will therefore be dismantled as of today," he said.

Jalosjos, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1997 for raping an 11-year-old girl, said he would bring his case to the people and seek their judgment.

"I give up (with the Supreme Court) . . . I've been deprived of equal protection under the law, of due process," he said.

Jalosjos blamed "political machinations" and the media for his conviction.

He claimed former President Fidel Ramos used his case in a bid to seek another term.

Following his arrest in Bagac, Bataan, during the Ramos administration, Jalosjos said the former president and other top government officials met for five hours to discuss his case.

"Ramos used me as a trophy to show the people that his government could arrest a big fish," Jalosjos said.

NEWSBRIEFS

Cassava crops uprooted

OPPOSITION to the 150,000-hectare cassava plantation project of the San Miguel Corporation and Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy Jr. has taken new form when unidentified farmers uprooted more than one-hectare of cassava seedlings in Brgy. Santiago, Quirino town. More than 500 hectares of agricultural lands in 12 towns of Isabela have been designated as cassava nurseries. To date, 300 hectares have been cultivated and 68 hectares have been planted with cassava seedlings. Rafael Mariano, chair of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, said "the spontaneous uprooting of cassava seedlings sends a strong political statement and opposition" of farmer-residents to Cojuangco (SMC chair Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr.) and Dy's cassava project in Isabela. ***Gerald G. Lacuarta***

No ban on US chicken

THE BUREAU of Animal Industry has yet to decide whether or not to ban the importation of chicken parts from the United States which have been earlier banned in Japan and China for bird influenza contamination. Dr. Ronel Avila, chief of the National Veterinary Quarantine Service of the BAI, said they were still waiting for an official advisory from the World Animal Health Organization on the extent of the bird flu contamination in the US. "Once we get an official advisory, that's the time we will recommend a ban," Avila said. He said the quarantine service was closely monitoring the affected areas in the US through reports in the Internet. Avila said a possible ban would only cover imports coming from affected areas. So far, the bird flu virus has been found on a farm in Pennsylvania. ***Gerald G. Lacuarta***

Senate honors Locsin

THE SENATE yesterday named its media and public information center (Pimro) after the late Teodoro M. Locsin Sr., a well-respected journalist who published and edited the Philippine Free Press. In simple rites presided by Senate President Franklin Drilon, a marker was unveiled, naming the facilities of Pimro after "the former guerilla who fought the Japanese invasion, crusading journalist and valiant defender of human rights and freedom before and during the darkest days of martial law." Makati Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr., former Free Press editors and writers and other members of the Locsin family attended the unveiling of the marker. ***Rocky Nazareno***

NPA commander yields

A COMMUNIST guerrilla commander in charge of guarding captured soldiers has surrendered to government forces in Mindoro, an Army spokesperson said yesterday. Lt.Col. Jose Mabanta identified the rebel as Rodante Flaminiano, alias Commander Choy, a "communist hardcore" of the New People's Army responsible for the abduction of several military officials in the past. Flaminiano, a guerrilla of 15 years standing, had recently abandoned his colleagues in Mindoro and gave up his firearms to the military, Mabanta said. "Flaminiano surrendered because of conflicts with other party members and leaders of the movement arising from different factors, which include disillusionment and hardships," Mabanta said. ***AFP***

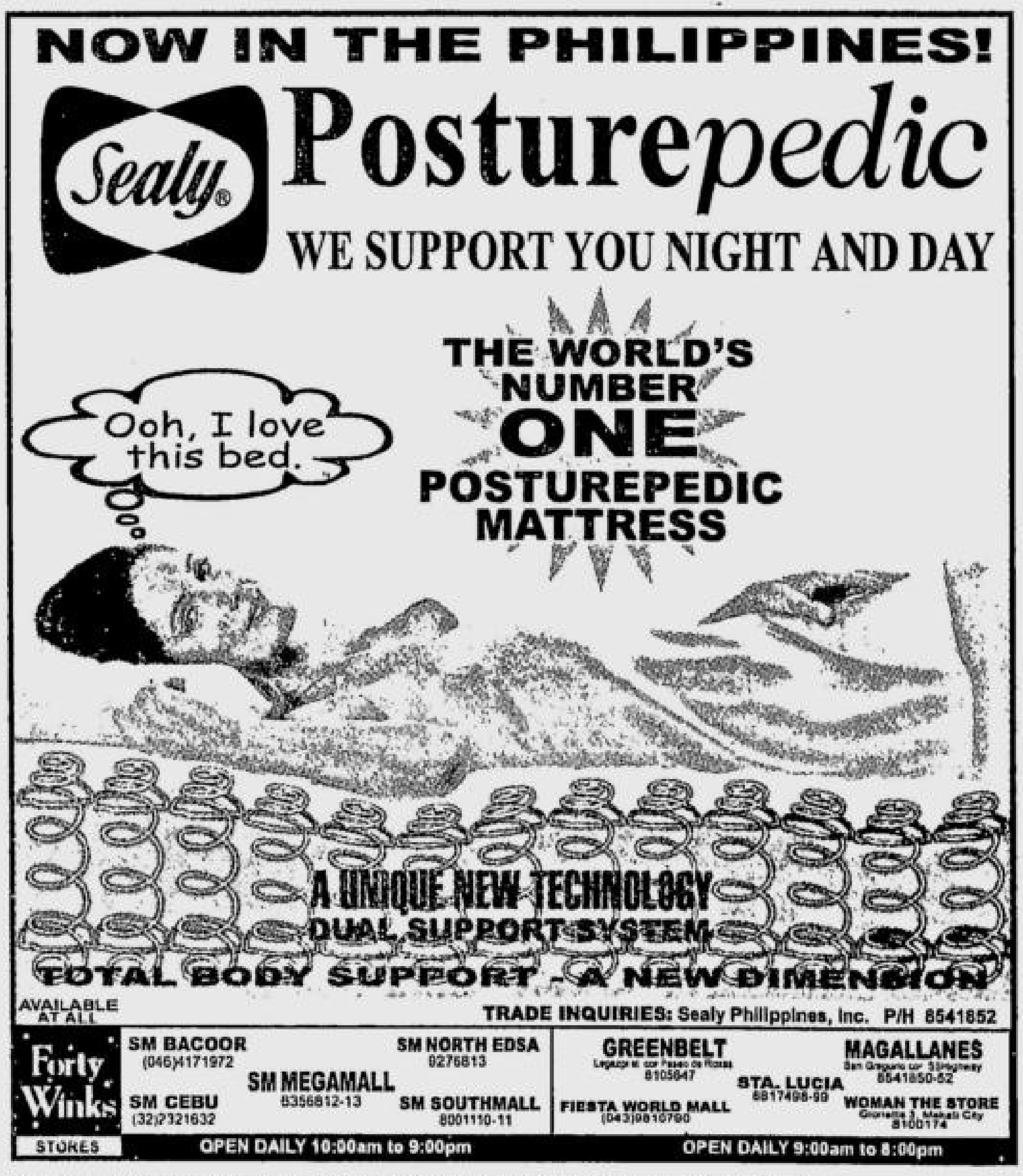
Sto. Tomas stays pat

Labor secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas is in for what could be the biggest battle of her career at the Department of Labor and Employment. Sto. Tomas said yesterday she would clamp down on recruiters who would not follow the controversial rules that the DOLE is set to implement next month. The feisty DOLE chief stood pat on her decision not to accommodate any more changes on the soon-to-be-released department order and memorandum circular governing the recruitment industry. ***Blanche S. Rivera***

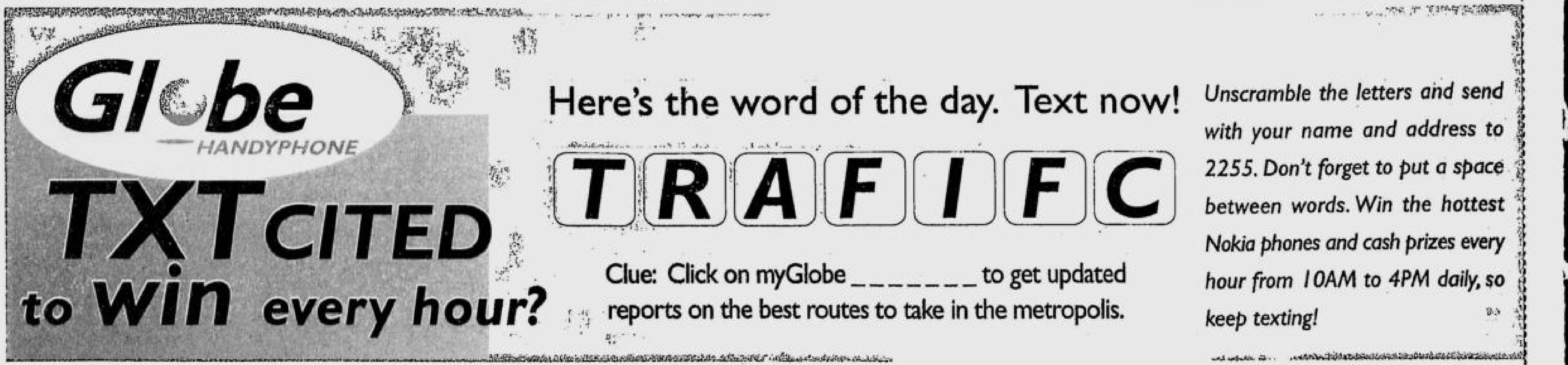
COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
P12,000. ONLY LIQUID TYPE SAVIN 780 220 V, 60Hz
P16,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 220 V, 60Hz
P46,500. ONLY BRAND NEW DIGITAL COPIER + PRINTER 9912-A
100% GUARANTEED! KATUN TONERS & PARTS FOR USE IN SHARP, CANON, RICOH, MINOLTA, TOSHIBA, SELEX, MITA, GESTETNER, RISO, KONICA, ETC.
NOW AVAILABLE: LEASE TO OWN / RENTAL (We Accept Trade-in)
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 Mt Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Nr. NU)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cabanatuan: (0919)7080934 • Cebu: 263-2402
Tarlac: (0918)-5738497
CHEAPER REFILL INK AND CARTRIDGES FOR MOST COMPUTER PRINTER MODELS!

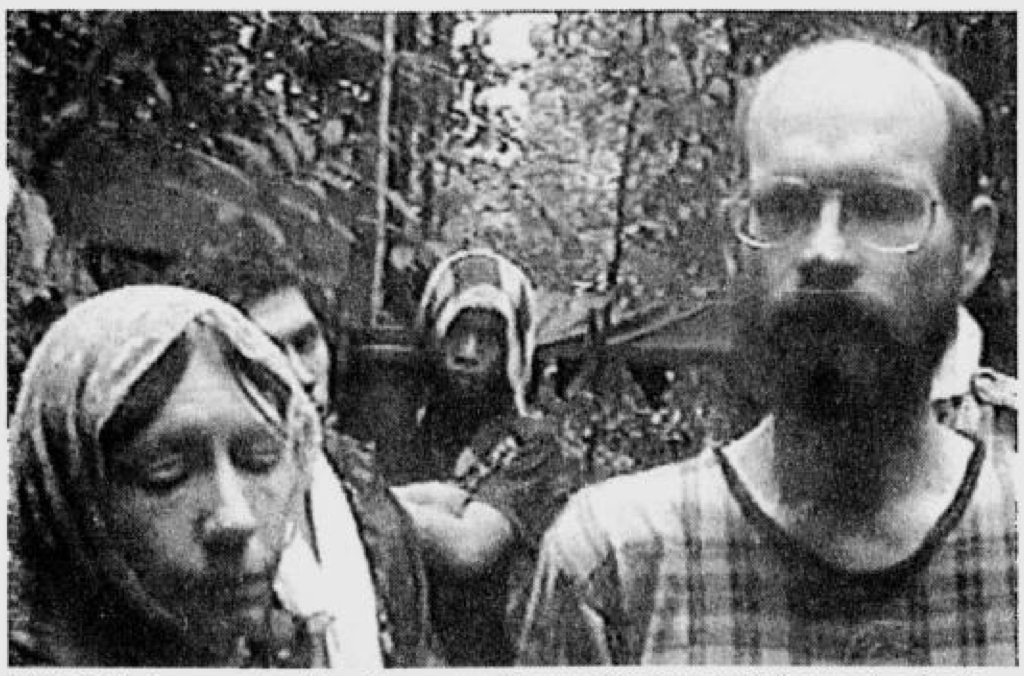
JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH
2002 PROGRAM
COME AND OBSERVE OUR CLASSES TODAY
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION FLUENCY
- INTENSIVE PRONUNCIATION COURSE
- ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE
- ENGLISH FOR FOREIGNERS
- INTENSIVE GRAMMAR REVIEW
- BUSINESS WRITING PROFICIENCY
- ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS
- VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT COURSE
- SPEED READING & COMPREHENSION
- CHOICES of CORPORATE COMMUNICATION COURSES
SP SPEECHPOWER
Different. Professional. Effective.
SP-Cubao 9110832;9110833;9110834
SP-Espana 7357262;7357256;7357312
SP-Taft 5236905;5213601;5255310

RICOH COPIERS
AVAILABLE: LEASE TO OWN/RENTAL • WE TRANSACT 24 HOURS/DAY FROM MONDAY TO SUNDAY
P12,000 only Liquid Type
P16,000 only Powder Type
BOND PAPER=P65/rm. DISPERSANT=P42/ltr. U.S. SP. TONER=P260/ltr.
KAI General mdse. Tel.: 716-6110 • 713-8461 • 780-0302 • 780-0304 (INFRONT OF PUP ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE BLDG.) QC-1 BLDG 3 GSIS METROHOMES, PUREZA, STA. MESA, MANILA
LUZON
Baguio (074) 443-6914 / 304-2946 / (0918) 4223611 • Tarlac (045) 800-0409 / (0918) 4856874 • Daet (054) 721-6829 • Naga 472-0494
Iriga (054) 655-2024 • Legaspi (052) 820-3345 • Masbate (056) 3332793
VISAYAS
Cebu (0917) 6082309 • Iloilo (033) 329-7826 • Tacloban (053) 325-3441 / (0919) 6518273 • Catbalogan (055) 251-2206 • Calbayog (055) 209-3322
MINDANAO
Davao (082) 222-6824 / (0917) 7324178 • Gen. Santos (083) 302-0743
Cagayan de Oro (088) 231-3850 / (0919) 2403898 • Iligan (063) 221-5492 •
Pagadian (062) 214-4551 • Cotabato (064) 421-6239 / (0919) 4247220 •


NOW IN THE PHILIPPINES!
Sealy® Posturepedic
WE SUPPORT YOU NIGHT AND DAY
THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE POSTUREPEDIC MATTRESS
Ooh, I love this bed.
A UNIQUE NEW TECHNOLOGY
DUAL SUPPORT SYSTEM
TOTAL BODY SUPPORT - A NEW DIMENSION
AVAILABLE AT ALL
TRADE INQUIRIES: Sealy Philippines, Inc. P/H 8541852
Forty Winks STORES
SM BACOOR (046)4171972
SM NORTH EDSA 9276813
SM MEGAMALL 6356812-13
SM CEBU (32)2321632
SM SOUTHMALL 8001110-11
OPEN DAILY 10:00am to 9:00pm
GREENBELT Legazpi st. cor Paseo de Roxas 8105847
MAGALLANES San Gregorio cor. S.Highway 8541850-52
STA. LUCIA 6817498-99
FIESTA WORLD MALL (043)9810790
WOMAN THE STORE Glorietta 3, Makati City 8100174
OPEN DAILY 9:00am to 8:00pm

For years, AQUA SOFT cares so much for your health...
We PROVE IT.
Aqua Soft PURIFIED DRINKING WATER
"Water at its Purest"
AQUA LAB
MORE THAN 200 FRANCHISED WATER REFILLING STATIONS NATIONWIDE.
MAIN OFF. #349 A. Bonifacio Ave., cor. Mauban Street, San Jose, Quezon City
Tel.# (02) 365-6149 Fax # 367-7131


Globe HANDYPHONE
TXTCITED to win every hour?
Here's the word of the day. Text now!
T R A F I F C
Clue: Click on myGlobe _______ to get updated reports on the best routes to take in the metropolis.
Unscramble the letters and send with your name and address to 2255. Don't forget to put a space between words. Win the hottest Nokia phones and cash prizes every hour from 10AM to 4PM daily, so keep texting!



"ANYONE who can solve this crisis, we would appreciate very much," a weeping Gracia Burnham tells a journalist. Photo taken from footage of interview with Burnhams by Arlyn de la Cruz.

Burnhams: 245 days of pain . . .

TIRED distraught and living under horrendous conditions, an American Christian missionary couple will enter their ninth month in captivity this weekend at the hands of the Abu Sayyaf rebels in Basilan.

As they mark yet another month of agony on Sunday in the deep jungles of Basilan island, the United States is pouring hundreds of troops into the south to train their Filipino counterparts to destroy the ruthless kidnappers.

The Americans, Martin and Gracia Burnham from Kansas State, along with a Filipino nurse Deborah Yap are among the last of a group of hostages seized by the Abu Sayyaf in a kidnapping spree that began on May 27 last year.

A third American, Guillermo Sobero of California, was beheaded by the gunmen along with more than a dozen Filipino hostages.

The Burnhams "are ill, very tired, very distraught and living under horrendous conditions for essentially the last eight months now and they are not doing very well at all," a Western diplomat who was briefed by the Philippine authorities on the couple's plight told reporters in Manila.

A US television network aired a footage of the couple this week based on an interview in November.

"Let's say the footage is rather stark to see," the diplomat said.

"They were a very healthy, 42-year-old couple (when they were kidnapped in May). Now their hands are shaking, they can't keep their voices straight, their eyes are going in and out of focus. They are very, very thin."

The eight-month kidnap crisis has not only damaged the image of the Philippines but also tarnished the reputation of the country's armed forces after military commanders were accused of colluding with the Abu Sayyaf reportedly for part of the ransom.

"We know that the Philippine government is doing everything to rescue us," Martin Burnham said in the November interview.

"I don't want to sound disrespectful, but it's not working," he said.

"Anyone who can solve this crisis, we would appreciate very much," his weeping wife Gracia had said.

But the United States has not lost faith in the Philippine military, the western diplomat said.

"Philippine troops have lost 43 dead in their bid to free the Burnhams. There is thus no question about their intention and dedication," the diplomat said.

"But the problem is giving them the skills that it will take to effect the rescue," he added.

Washington branded the group a terrorist organization after the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States.

Apart from the Burnhams, an Italian priest is being held by another group of Muslim gunmen elsewhere in the south. *AFP*

Fierce firefights erupt in Basilan; 4 rangers hurt

By Martin P. Marfil

FOUR Scout Rangers were wounded and an undetermined number of Abu Sayyaf terrorists were believed killed when Army troops clashed twice yesterday with the main body of the rebel group in Tuburan, Basilan.

According to a sketchy report reaching Fort Bonifacio in Makati City, the first firefight occurred at around 8:20 a.m. when two platoons belonging to Class 145 of the Scout Rangers engaged an undetermined number of Abu Sayyaf rebels in Saguintong, Tuburan.

The five-minute clash left no casualties but when the rebels withdrew, a second unit from the 10th Scout Ranger Co. caught up with them an hour later and a second firefight ensued.

The four Scout Rangers were wounded in the second clash while an undetermined number of Abu Sayyaf rebels were believed killed, AFP reported, quoting military officials in the field.

The Scout Rangers were not identified. They were airlifted in two helicopters to the Camp Navarro hospital in Zamboanga City.

At the clash site were discarded backpacks and bloodstains on the trail where the rebels had fled, the military said citing a report from the soldiers.

"We have received reports they suffered undetermined casualties," regional military chief Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu told reporters.

Fighting also broke out on the nearby island of Jolo on Friday, prompting the military to dispatch two OV-10 attack airplanes to target rebel positions. There were no immediate reports of casualties on either side.

There was also no sighting of the American hostages in Basilan.

The Americans, Martin and Gracia Burnham of Kansas, along with Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap continue to be held by the Abu Sayyaf who kidnapped them in a spree that began on May 27 last year.

On Wednesday afternoon, two Abu Sayyaf bandits—not eight as earlier reported—were killed while two soldiers were injured during a heavy firefight in Mt. Matanggat.

Col. Alexander Aleo, commander of the Army's 103rd Infantry Brigade in Basilan, said the rebels that figured in the series of encounters belonged to the group of Suhod Tanajalin and Yacub Sattar.

Cimatu said it was possible the Tuburan-based Abu Sayyaf were trying to create diversionary tactics because of intense military pressure against their comrades in Maluso and Sumisip towns.

It was reported that the Burnham couple was being held in Maluso.

"They were apparently trying to distract us from the Maluso and Sumisip operations," Cimatu said.

More American troops arrived Friday in Zamboanga City across the strait from Basilan for war exercises that would include operations against the Abu Sayyaf.

About 31 newly arrived US soldiers met with Cimatu in the military headquarters in Zamboanga City on Friday but details of the meeting were not disclosed.

Manila has stressed that the Americans will only serve as trainers and advisers and will not take part in actual combat.

President Macapagal said Friday she believes the Philippine Constitution does not bar US forces from taking part in combat operations in the country but it was her decision to hold the Americans back from fighting.

"The reason I don't want American soldiers to do combat is not because of constitutional parameters . . . but because it is Philippine government policy to let Filipino soldiers do the fighting. It is not really a constitutional issue, it is a policy issue," she said.

Asked about the consequences if an American soldier was killed in the fighting, Ms Macapagal said: "They came in, they know the risks." ***With Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau, and an AFP report***

DOJ nixes Internet, laptop for Nur

By Norman Bordadora
and TJ Burgonio

NUR Misuari may just have to kiss his plans of surfing the Net from inside his detention cell goodbye.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said yesterday he would bar any attempt by Misuari to equip his cell at Fort Sto. Domingo, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, with a laptop computer, a printer and access to the Internet.

"The use of a computer is definitely not one of the rights of an accused and, therefore, it shall not be granted. We will, however, assess if there is an urgent need for it," Perez said at a news conference yesterday at DOJ headquarters in Manila.

As for Misuari's other requests—a medical checkup at the Makati Medical Center and access to the media—Perez said he would discuss these with Interior and Local Government Secretary Jose Lina.

Misuari's lawyers have filed a motion for reconsideration of the Supreme Court ruling transferring his trial from Jolo, Sulu to Calamba, Laguna.

Following the ruling on Thursday, police officials ordered the construction of a P2.9-million courthouse inside the camp and set a three-week time frame for its completion.

Like any regular courtroom, the courthouse will have a sala, judge's chambers, rooms for the prosecution and defense panels as well as a conference room, police said.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

JUDICIAL ETHICS—Conduct of employees in the judiciary—Every employee in the judiciary should be an example of integrity, uprightness and honesty. Not only is he expected to be well-mannered, civil and considerate in his actuations, official or otherwise; but more than anybody else, he is also bound to manifest in his superiors, more particularly to the presiding Judge, utmost respect and obedience to the latter's orders and instructions issued pursuant to the duties of the office the Judge holds. Respondent's acts of repeatedly ignoring complainant's memoranda for him to attend flag ceremonies, wear appropriate office uniform, sign the logbook, and observe complete office hours indicate not only his lack of regard for the reasonable office rules and regulations which every civil servant is bound to observe. Respondent's liability is compounded by the fact that as Clerk of Court, hence, administrative assistant to the presiding Judge having administrative supervision over his co-employees, respondent was expected to be the role model for his co-employees to be emulated in the performance of their duties as well as in their conduct and behavior as civil servants. [Citations omitted.] [*En Banc, Per Curiam*, Mallare v. Ferry, A.M. No. P-00-1381, July 31, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

REPAIR... DON'T REPLACE
SAVE NOW!
BEFORE AFTER
U.S. PATENTED PROCESS
WINDSHIELD CRACK REPAIR
up to 20% OFF
We also do: WINDSHIELD REPLACEMENT • PAINTLESS DENT REPAIR
PAINT TOUCH UP • SPRAY-ON BED LINER • RUST PROOFING • AUTO DETAILING • ODOR REMOVAL
CAR DOCTOR
AUTO RESTORATION SPECIALIST
858 B Chino Roces Avenue Makati City, Philippines 1203
☎ 7571111 to 13

We do accept job as a
renovator or building
contractor of resort,
restaurant, resthouse and
vacation house.
LATIAN KAY PARANG
Phase IV Town & Country (North)
Mc Arthur Highway
Abangan, Marilao, Bulacan
Tel/Fax (044) 711-4212 / Tel (044) 711-4213

GENERICS
FACTORY PRICE
CASH, No Minimum Order, Money Back Guarantee
DEC. 1, 2001

Amoxicillin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	P 190.00
Carbocisteine cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	113.00
Cephalexin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	354.00
Cloxacillin cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	225.00
Co-trimoxazole cap (TM-80mg, SMZ-400mg)	Box of 100's	101.00
Ethambutol tab 400 mg	Box of 100's	179.00
Mefenamic Acid cap 500 mg	Box of 100's	100.00
Paracetamol syrup 250mg/5ml	Bot. of 60 ml	12.50
Paracetamol tab,500 mg	Box of 100's	31.00
Salbutamol tab 2 mg	Box of 100's	36.30
Terbutaline tab 2.5 mg	Box of 100's	77.00
Vitamin B1+B6+B12 tab	Box of 100's	100.00

BSEG Commercial, R-210 L C Bldg. 459 Quezon Ave., Quezon City Tel. nos. 4101337, 4101868 Fax 4105216 More products available at website: www.cnn-generics.com email: lowprice@cnn-generics.com
DEALERS & DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

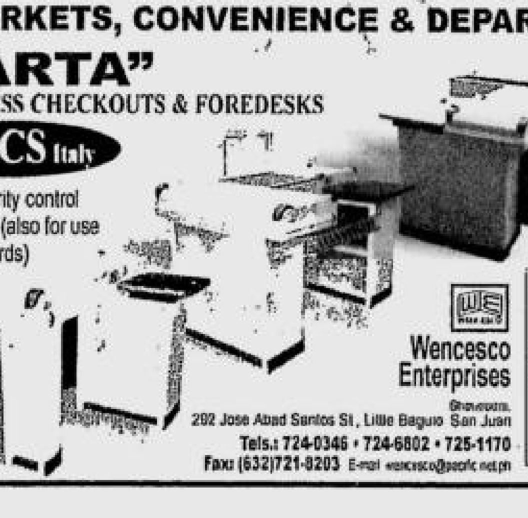
MEJORE Woodworks Inc.
Solid Wood, Solid Quality, Solid Value...
Proudly Made in the Philippines

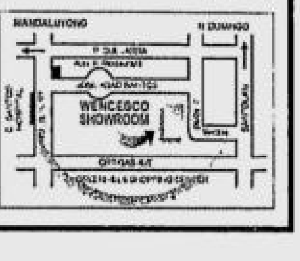
Showroom Address:
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. LIbis
Quezon City
6367030/6375976

Be the first to view our 2002 furniture collection. We accept all major credit cards. Enjoy factory prices on all items. (includes Mirrors/ Prints/ Lamps/ and many other accessories)

Welcome 2002
Year of the Horse
New Year!
New Stocks!
For January & February only
1st SPECIAL PROMO SALE
in the Chinese New Year for
SUPERMARKETS, CONVENIENCE & DEPARTMENT STORES
"SPARTA"
MINI & EXPRESS CHECKOUTS & FOREDESKS
from SCS Italy
Complete with security control
- Scanner Protector (also for use in signing credit cards)
- Closing Gate Control
- Cashier Gate
- Drawer w/ key
- Bag Storage

*In pink and blue colors
Hurry!
Avail of our promo discounts!
SEE US TODAY!
Wencesco Enterprises
Showroom:
202 Jose Abad Santos St., Little Baguio San Juan
Tels.: 724-0346 • 724-6802 • 725-1170
Fax: (632)721-8203 E-mail wencesco@pacific.net.ph





SLIMMERS WORLD
FAT LOSS.
P37 PER VISIT on full programmes

Gain
10 lbs. of
muscle

Double the FAT LOSS with our
Spa Treatments
Passive Slimming
Quickslim, Bodyformer, Advanced Celluloss Technology
Beauty & Pampering
Ultrapeel, Facial, Milkbath, Hotmasque
Stress Relief
Swedish Massage, Reflexology, Aromatherapy
ONLY P368 per treatment ON FULL PROGRAMMES
HOTLINE NUMBER: 887-3533
CALL US
www.slimmersworld.com.ph
inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph
ALABANG Karen 809-0396
BINONDO Herlie 242-1312
CALOOCAN Sherry 365-7654
CEBU Em-Em 231-3254
GREENHILLS Cha/Abie 726-6505
LEGASPI Ruth 893-8934
MALATE Grace/Tin 536-0619
MEGAMALL Michelle 631-3869
PASAY RD Mel 887-1336
PASIG Lorie 681-5333
SM NORTH Aileen 929-5429
SUBIC Ruza 252-6514
TRAFALGAR Sheila 814-0138

Gloria: Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee

From page A1

Arroyo is now comparing herself to Muhammad Ali, who had once prided himself as the greatest boxer of all time.

Speaking yesterday during the 20th anniversary of the Makati Business Club, the President said she was taking the cue from a story about Ali early on during his boxing career.

"A man at the ringside just kept on heckling him round after round. Finally, Ali went to the heckler and said 'Hey, you're down there shouting, I'm up here fighting.' And that's the way I feel," Ms Macapagal said, to the applause of the country's top businessmen.

"Like Ali, I'm up on the right fighting and like him, I'll be slugging away for the full 15 rounds," she said to more applause.

Deep appreciation

The President extended her deepest appreciation to those cheering her on, and that included the MBC, which had earlier given a good review of her administration's first-year performance.

"And to those who are not cheering me on, I can only say that I am challenged and inspired to work even harder to meet the needs of our people," she said.

Ms Macapagal also cited a recent INQUIRER editorial which noted that Filipinos are the worst enemies of themselves because of their penchant to shoot themselves in the foot.

"And I am glad that the MBC seems to agree because we have adopted the flying goose principle as the principle for moving our country forward," she said.

Still 'mataray'

Just like Ali, Ms Macapagal could be really nasty.

An American journalist got a taste of this when he asked during a press conference that followed the MBC luncheon gathering why it was difficult for her government to run the Abu Sayyaf to the ground.

"I want to be nasty and ask, why didn't you foresee the World Trade Center bombing?" she replied.

Then she answered her own question: "Because terrorists are a difficult enemy and it's not conventional warfare, which is what the world has been used to."

When another journalist asked about her New Year's resolution to be less "*mataray*" (testy), Ms Macapagal answered: "My New Year's resolution was not to lose my temper. I didn't resolve not to be *mataray*."

This prompted the businessmen to applaud some more.

Just a reminder

The President also defended her statements on Thursday wherein she said that the country needed a leader with brains like her and not one with mere charisma like her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada. Ms Macapagal was then responding to criticisms that she lacked Estrada's "common touch" with the poor.

"No, it wasn't specifically a criticism against the former President but was a reminder to those who keep saying that I'm so awful," she said.

"I could actually have been more awful."

In her speech before the MBC, the President reiterated that she has not started an early campaign for the 2004 presidential election.

"When I reach out to opposition personalities, (I do it) not to create political deals for the 2004 elections. Rather, I am seeking political space here and now, within which the opposition may contribute to efforts to get our economy moving," she added.

Pope leads interfaith prayer for world peace

From page A1

gions bring upon earth justice and peace, forgiveness, life and love!"

The Pope told the 200 leaders representing some 30 religions they were gathered "to do our part in fending off the dark clouds of terrorism and armed conflict which, in these last few months, have grown particularly ominous on humanity's horizon."

Their meeting would serve to "scatter the shadows of suspicion and misunderstanding" between faiths.

The 81-year-old Pope spoke after a series of participants, including a US rabbi and an Egyptian imam, read a series of "testimonies for peace" at the opening of the conference.

"Listening to one another, we believe that this itself is already a sign of peace," said the Pontiff.

Lamps of peace

The lamps, lit at the end of the ceremony by Franciscan monks, were placed on a table in front of the Pope by a succession of leaders in an assortment of religious garb, from the black of the Orthodox Church to the bright turbans of Sikhs and yellow hues worn by Shinto monks.

The lamps were taken inside the Basilica of St Francis, symbol of reconciliation and brotherhood, where they will form a permanent fixture.

The square outside the Basilica was covered by a giant tent in which was held the opening and closing parts of the ceremony, in between which members of each religion dispersed to pray in their own rite at various sites in Assisi from which Christian symbols had been removed.

The day of prayer was broken by a simple vegetarian lunch for the participants inside the Franciscan convent.

Earlier, leaders of the major religions of Christianity, Islam and Judaism were joined by Buddhists, Sikhs, Hindus, Shintos, Jains, African traditionalists, Confucians and Zoroastrians, forming a kind of religious "Noah's Ark" on a unique train journey from the rarely used Vatican railway station to Assisi.

Reasserting religion

The Pope invited the religious leaders to join him to reassert the role of religion in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks by Islamic militants on the United States and reaffirm that God should never again be invoked for violent purposes.

He told the gathering that tragic conflicts often resulted "from an unjustified association of religion with nationalistic, political and economic interests."

"It can never be forgotten that situations of oppression and exclusion are often at the source of violence and terrorism."

Muslim cleric Ali Elsamman, delivering a "testimony for peace" by Egyptian Imam Moahmmed Tatwawi, said the gathering would reaffirm that "all the monotheistic religions preach that human beings should support love and justice," Rabbi Israel Singer, head of an international committee on inter-religious consultation, said pronouncements alone were not enough to bring peace, which could only come about "through serious dialogue and sincere commitment to physical engagement to peace on the part of the leaders of the major faiths."

Guests

The ceremony was attended by some 3,000 guests, including Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and members of the Vatican's diplomatic corps.

After exchanging a sign of peace at the end of the ceremony, the Pope and his guests were driven to Assisi's rail station for a two-hour journey back to the Vatican, from where they had set out Thursday morning.

The religious leaders will be returning to their homelands after committing to work for peace and end violence in religion's name.

The Pope, who suffers from the symptoms of Parkinson's disease, appeared in fine form throughout the day, playfully waving his cane to the crowds as he left Assisi under a steady rain.

"He was positively glowing," said Rabbi Ron Kronish, director of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel. "He had so much spiritual energy. He sort of radiated it to everyone."

Kronish said he was going home "spiritually empowered" by the day's events, even though he acknowledged it would be difficult to know whether the retreat was a success.

"Does it resolve anything tomorrow? No it doesn't. Will it have impact in the long run? I hope so," he said. ***AP and AFP***

US publicist to polish GMA global image

From page A1

abroad.

The ads, according to one INQ7.net source, will be published during her visit to London, Canada and the United States next week.

A member of the "syndicate of advertising agencies" had bragged the contract was made directly from the Office of the President.

The source said the PR firm was hired by Ms Macapagal's personal publicist Dante Ang, with Dong Puno, former spokesperson of the ousted President Joseph Estrada as "officer in charge" in the PR campaign.

Burston and Marsteller, according to another INQ7.net source, lobbied with Time Magazine to put Ms Macapagal on its cover. The source also identified presidential adviser on "1 million jobs" Cito Lorenzo and businessman Tom Alcantara for recommending the services of Burston and Marsteller to Malacañang.

Also hired by Ramos

"The PR firm will arrange all her media exposure as the fearless leader of Southeast Asia," said one of the sources, adding that the PR agency will also ensure Ms Macapagal's interviews, press conferences and TV guestings while abroad.

Burston and Marsteller, according to the source, was also tapped by former President Fidel V. Ramos to handle his media exposure in a trip to France in the '90s.

Though it operates in 35 countries, Burston and Marsteller doesn't have an office in Manila nor does it have a representative in the Philippines. Its nearest branch is in Hong Kong, the source said.

Last month, Ms Macapagal issued a directive assigning Press Undersecretary Manuel Sanchez to coordinate with all press releases of government agencies, to include advertisings.

Ms Macapagal also removed the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) from the Office of the Press Secretary and placed it under the control of the Office of the President through the Presidential Management Staff (PMS).

Her personal publicist, Ang, has also resumed his presence in the President's activities, personally supervising Ms Macapagal's three-part series Yearend Economic Report aired from Baguio City last month.

Lately, however, Ms Macapagal had to ban the media from her visits to urban poor communities as requested by Jaime Cardinal Sin, archbishop of Manila, in his homily delivered on the first year of Ms Macapagal's presidency on Jan. 20.

Air Philippines
Your home in the sky.

IT'S BACK!

Air Philippines' 2 Days Advance Purchase Promo

The finest low fares in town!

FLT. NO.	DEP	ARR	FLT. NO.	DEP	ARR	FREQ	NORMAL Y	PAG-ASA YD	2-DAYS YAP2
MANILA to BACOLOD			BACOLOD to MANILA						
2P 765	1000	1110	2P 766	1140	1250	Daily	2498	2198	1948
MANILA to CAGAYAN DE ORO			CAGAYAN DE ORO to MANILA						
2P 533	0840	1005	2P 534	1035	1200	Daily	3295	2918	2398
MANILA to CEBU			CEBU to MANILA						
2P 771	0630	0740	2P 772	0810	0920	Daily	2608	2308	1998
2P 773	0935	1045	2P 774	1425	1535	Daily	2608	2308	1998
2P 777	1645	1755	2P 778	1830	1940	Daily	2608	2308	1998
MANILA to DAVAO			DAVAO to MANILA						
2P 539	0500	0640	2P 540	0715	0855	Daily	3308	2918	2398
2P 543	1600	1740	2P 544	1810	1950	Daily	3308	2918	2398
MANILA to DUMAGUETE			DUMAGUETE to MANILA						
2P 791	0610	0725	2P 792	0800	0915	Daily	2608	2308	1998
2P 793	1310	1425	2P 794	1500	1615	Daily	2608	2308	1998
MANILA to GEN. SANTOS			GEN. SANTOS to MANILA						
2P 773 via CEB	0935	1220	2P 774 via CEB	1250	1535	Daily	2998	2698	---
MANILA to ILOILO			ILOILO to MANILA						
2P 731	0515	0620	2P 732	0700	0805	Daily	2498	2198	1948
2P 735	1240	1345	2P 736	1415	1520	Daily	2498	2198	1948
2P 737	1625	1730	2P 738	1800	1905	Daily	2498	2198	1948
MANILA to KALIBO			KALIBO to MANILA						
2P 721	0845	0935	2P 722	1010	1100	Daily (UP TO JAN. 28 ONLY)	2608	2308	1998
2P 721	0845	0935	2P 722	1010	1100	M-W-F-Sa-Su (EFFECTIVE 29 JAN)	2608	2308	1998
MANILA to PUERTO PRINCESA			PUERTO PRINCESA to MANILA						
2P 213	0945	1055	2P 214	1125	1235	Daily	2998	2698	---
MANILA to SAN JOSE			SAN JOSE to MANILA					1148 PROMO OW	
2P 231	0600	0645	2P 232	0715	0800	Tu-F-Su	1598	2096 PROMO RT	
MANILA to ZAMBOANGA			ZAMBOANGA to MANILA						
2P 551	1140	1320	2P 552	1350	1530	Daily	3295	2638	2398
CEBU to GEN. SANTOS			GEN. SANTOS to CEBU						
2P 773	1115	1220	2P 774	1250	1355	Daily	2378	2078	---

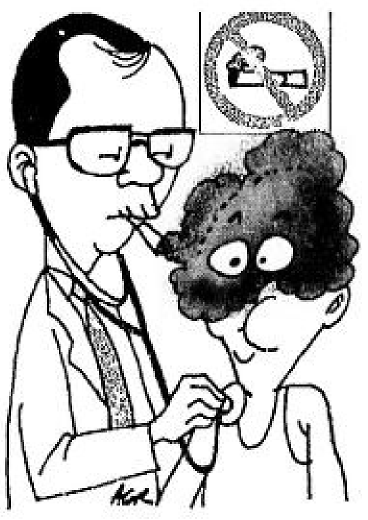
ONE-WAY TRAVEL
GUIDELINES ON ADVANCE PURCHASE FARES:

1. Selling Period Immediately-- Up to 13th March 2002 only.
2. Ticket/Travel Validity -- From 07 January to 15 March 2002 only.
3. Tickets must be purchased at least 2 days in advance. Confirmed booking for outbound travel only.
4. Advance purchase, booking and rebooking requirements for 2-Day Advance Purchase fare must be strictly adhered.
5. Limited seats only.
6. Exclusive of terminal fees and insurance surcharge of Php 300.00 per sector.
7. Subject to CAB approval and may change without prior notice.

CALL 855-9000 / FAX : 851-7922 / E-MAIL: reservations@airphilippines.com.ph

Heal by example, smoking docs told

By Armand N. Nocum



'PHYSICIAN, heal thyself.' And you can start by ditching that cigarette.

Local doctors have declared war on cardiovascular disease, but admit they have to start with their own colleagues, many of whom smoke cigarettes.

In a press briefing of the Philippine Heart Association, the country's premier authority on cardiovascular care, a Department of Health official said one Filipino—smokers and nonsmokers alike—dies every hour due to disease caused by smoking.

DOH records showed that in 1999, Filipinos spent P46.4 billion on health care for smoking-related diseases, although the government only earned P21.4 billion from "tobacco revenues."

One out of five Filipino adults were found to be hypertensive. If anything, the numbers proved that second-hand smoke is just as deadly as puffing on a cigarette.

In a ceremony launching the PHA's "Puso sa Puso" media forum, Dr. Jessica Cueto-De Leon, DOH health education and promotion adviser, said "63 percent of male Filipino doctors and 37 percent of female physicians are smokers."

"One out of three of them smoke in front of their patients," she said. "That's very bad . . . we have to start with ourselves."

Describing the matter as an "ironic situation," she lamented that the smokers include cardiologists.

Apart from doctors, she said media institutions are equally to blame for helping tobacco companies promote their products.

"The media is also actually addicted to the money generated by commercials and advertisements" of tobacco companies, she said.

In the same forum, Dr. Cesar Recto, PHA director, said that in 1999, a total of 13,829 Filipinos died of smoking-related diseases, such as lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary artery disease and cerebrovascular disease.

In the same year, these diseases afflicted 252,460 Filipinos, Recto said.

He said that as a result of such diseases, Filipinos have lost P988 million in reduced productivity due to the diseases, and P18 billion has been lost in potential earnings due to death.

DOH to 'carpet bomb' country with polio vaccine

By Armand N. Nocum

HEALTH Secretary Manuel Dayrit has promised to "carpet bomb" the entire country with the vaccine to immunize all children five years old and under against a new strain of polio.

The Department of Health has set Feb. 2-8 and March 2-8 for the visits of about 50,000 health workers all over the archipelago to every home to administer the polio vaccine to children.

And if that doesn't cover every child, Dayrit said his department would put up immunization centers in the country's domestic airports to immunize young kids who may be traveling.

"We have also asked the police and military to escort doctors and medical personnel to high-risk areas so they could safely administer the polio vaccine," Dayrit said.

The DOH launched the immunization campaign after it found three children in Cavite, Laguna and Cagayan de Oro City who were afflicted with a new mutant strain of the polio virus.

"I call on all parents, rich or poor, to have their children vaccinated to protect them from the new virus," Dayrit said.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM
Financial Center, Pasay City, Metro Manila 1308

PHYSICAL RESOURCES BIDDING COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY & BID

The **GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM** invites all interested contractors to prequalify and bid for the supply and delivery for the proposed upgrading and renovation of Information Technology Services Group (ITSG), office at Cores B and C, Level 2, GSIS Headquarters Building, Financial Center, Pasay City.

Interested bidders with Philippine Contractors Accreditation (PCAB) license of "A" for General building and classification of at least Medium "B" for "Building" may secure standard pre-qualification forms from the Office of the Manager, Materials Management Department (MMD) during office hours at Level 1, Core B, GSIS Headquarters Bldg., Financial Center, Pasay City with Tel. Nos. 891-61-61 Loc. 4724 and 4720 or at 891-62-95 and 551-18-66, upon submission of a Letter of Interest. Pre-qualification documents must be returned, duly accomplished, to the same office not later than February 8, 2002.

Pre-qualified bidders shall be informed by mail or fax message of pre-bid conferences and bid schedules. All particulars relative to the pre-qualification, bidding and award shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulation of PD 1594, as amended in May 24, and July 5, 2000.

GSIS/PRBC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY DEFECT(S) OR INFORMALITY OF THE BIDS RECEIVED, TO ACCEPT THE BID MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE OWNER AND DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT AN AWARD WILL BE MADE. THE DECISION OF THE GSIS/PRBC IN THIS REGARD SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

(Sgd.) **PRISCILLA M. RABINA**
Chairman
Physical Resources Bidding Committee

Inquirer-Jan. 19, 26 & Feb. 2, 2002

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, January 26, 2002
Sts. Timothy & Titus

1st Reading: 2 Tim 1:1-8 or Tit 1:1-5
Gospel: Lk 10:1-9

The Lord appointed seventy-two other disciples and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place, where he himself was to go. And he said to them, "The harvest is rich, but the workers are few. So you must ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest. Courage! I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Set off without purse or bag or sandals; and do not stop at the homes of those you know.

Whatever house you enter, first bless them saying: 'Peace to this house.' If a friend of peace lives there, the peace shall rest upon that person. But if not, the blessing will return to you. Stay in that house eating and drinking at their table, for the worker deserves to be paid. Do not move from house to house.

When they welcome you in any town, eat what they offer you. Heal the sick who are there and say to them: 'The kingdom of God has drawn near to you.'"

Commentary

When the Church has been established in a place for a long time we tend to believe that everyone has had the chance to receive the Gospel: this is an illusion. Many families, especially the poor ones, have waited for years for some missionary's visit. Visiting homes is becoming a normal practice when members of our parish community assume their responsibility in the task of evangelization. The parish mission helps form missionaries and awakens those they visit. The parish will become "a community of communities" opened to the needs and aspirations of all. The sending of the "seventy-two" is a figure of the task that the Church has: to bring the Gospel to all people in all the nations; and that this task is to be carried out by all of us. Courage!

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

INVITING ALL ALUMNI OF COLEGIO SAN AGUSTIN MAKATI...

CLASS OF 1977

GOODWILL BOOKSTORE *Your family-friendly bookstore* and INQUIRER Golf Monthly

present

CSAturday Night Fever

THE AUGUSTINIAN ALUMNI HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

STEP BACK IN TIME & JOIN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES...

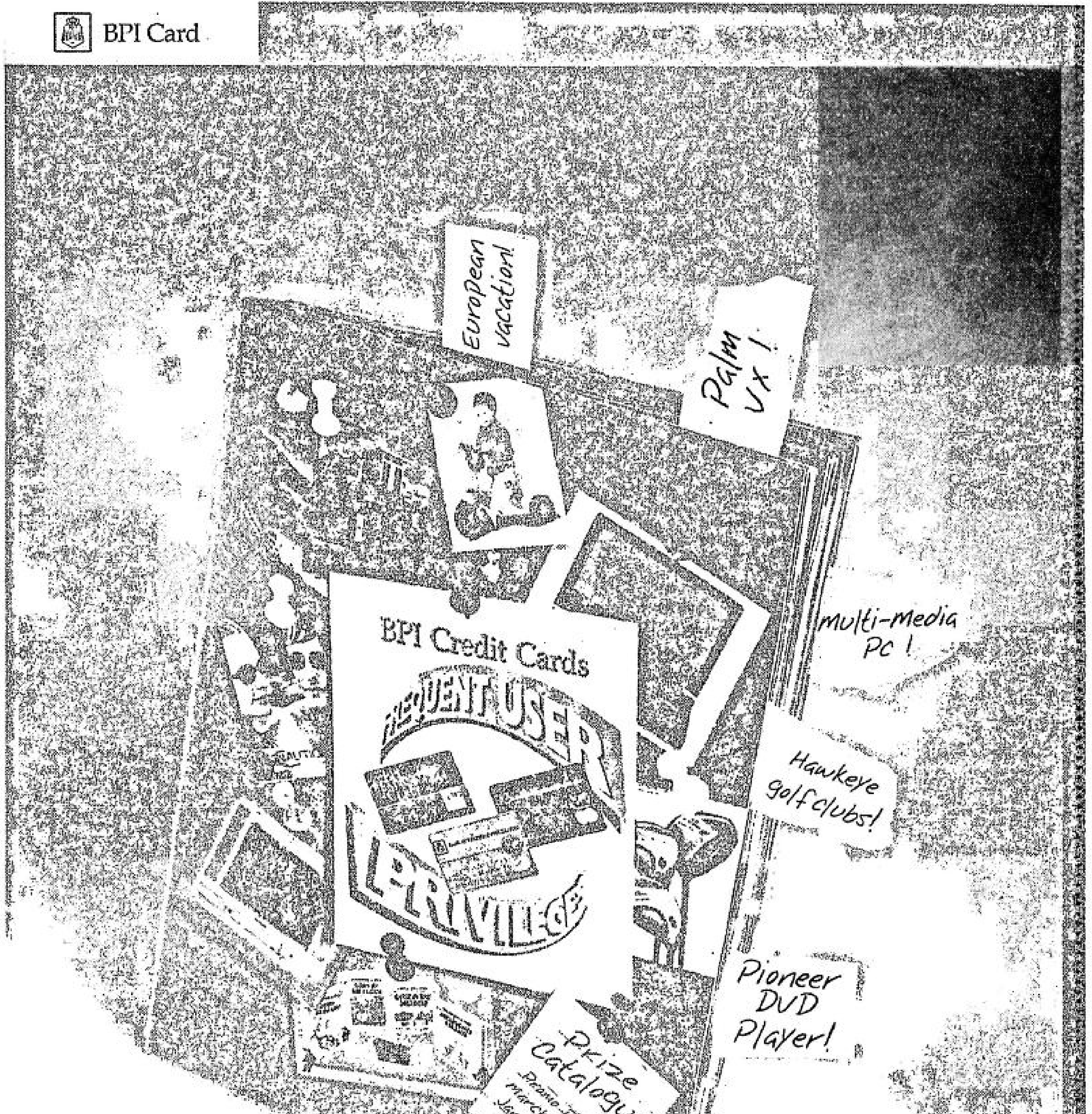
- Golf Tournament at Sherwood Hills Golf & Country Club, Trece Martirez, Cavite City on February 6, 2002. Registration at 6:00 A.M. & tee-off at 8:00 A.M.
- Consumer Fair at CSA Covered Court from February 7-9, 2002; 8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
- Holy Mass at 4:00 P.M. on February 9, 2002 at CSA Chapel.
- Election of Alumni Board of Directors for 2002 - 2004 Term on February 9, 2002 at CSA Covered Court.
- Alumni Homecoming Party at 6:00 P.M. on February 9, 2002 at CSA Covered Court.

For more details, please contact:
PRIMETRADE ASIA, INCORPORATED
Tel.: 8960682 or 8960661
Fax: 8960695 • E-mail: ptrade@philonline.com

Minor Sponsors:

Special Donors:

BPI Card



EXTENDED!

More time to get the stuff you really want!

BPI Credit Cards' Frequent User Privileges is extended all the way to July 28, 2002!* You can collect more points for great gifts like a Palm, TV, washing machine or even a trip abroad! Or, if you've already got enough points, redeem now and be one of the first to enjoy your rewards! So keep using your BPI Credit Card, to keep those points coming!

*Approved by DTI-NCR
*Based on cardholder's statement cut-off date

Per DTI NCR Permit No. 0687 Series of 2001

TOTO The Perfect Bathroom Collection

A WORLD LEADER IN BATHROOM FIXTURES

ATLANTIS PACKAGE BETINA PACKAGE AKITA PACKAGE PARIS PACKAGE SANDRA PACKAGE TIARA PACKAGE

SIAM MARIWASA TOTO, INC. Tel. Nos. 637-84-66 to 68 Fax No. 635-95-74

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 49
ISSN 0116-2642

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net

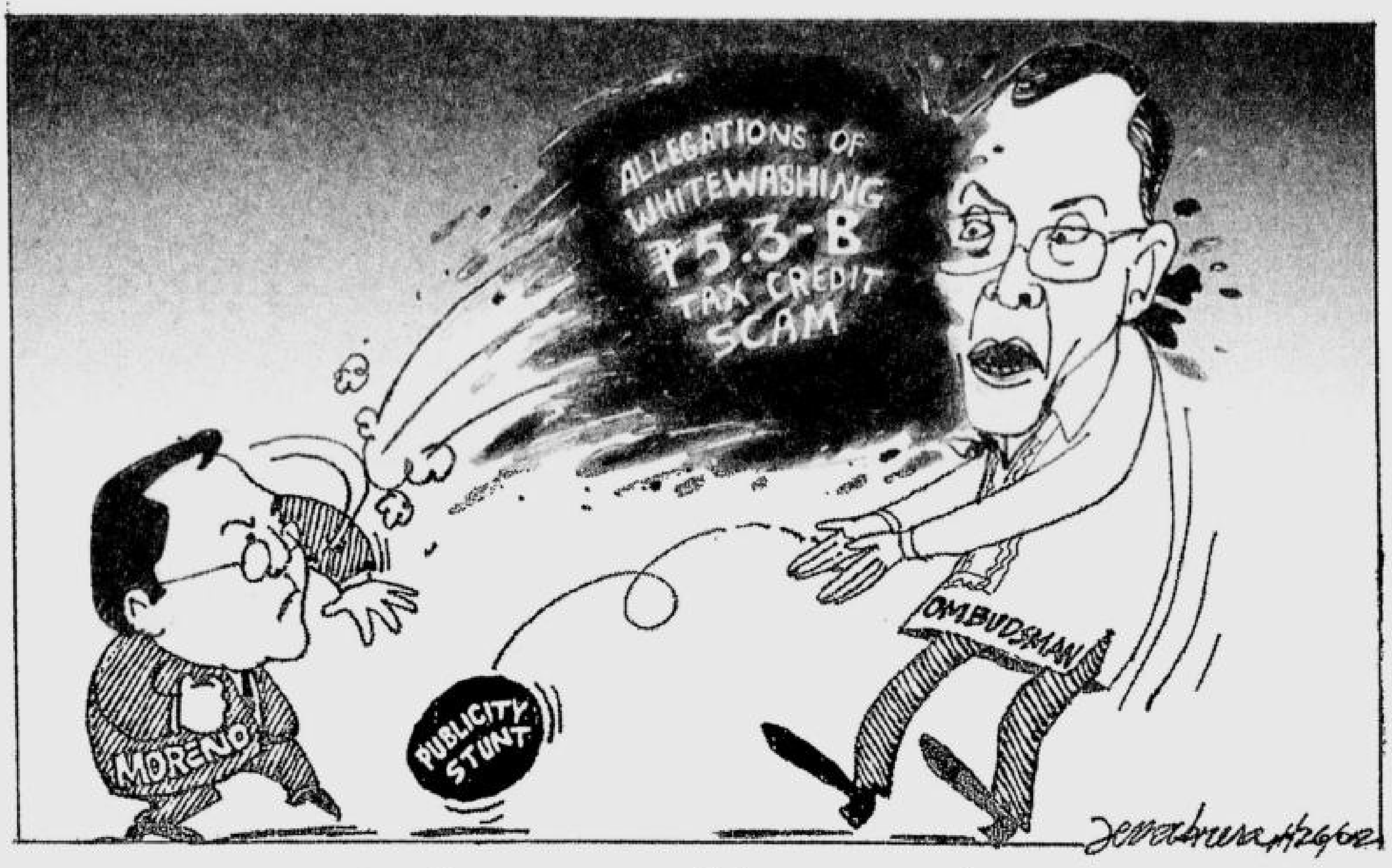
The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

• 100% soy ink •

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
Assistant News Editor **NILO B. PAUROM**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Deskpersons **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

• All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.


ALLEGATIONS OF WHITEWASHING ₱5.3-B TAX CREDIT SCAM
MORENO
PUBLICITY STUNT
OMBUDSMAN

Cutting corners

EDITORIAL

THE LEGAL opinion of the Department of Justice saying President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has the authority to approve "Balikatan 02-1," the joint Philippine-United States military exercises in Mindanao, may have allowed the Cabinet to present a unified façade, but it has also underlined the less-than-transparent approach of the administration in pushing the "war games."

It has been brought to light, in the debates inside government, that the President cut corners to give the exercises a legal veneer. The process under which the military exercises were approved in the past called for them to be approved by the Council of Ministers, composed of the foreign secretary and the US secretary of state, after they had been endorsed by the Mutual Defense Board.

"Balikatan 02-1" did not go through the Council of Ministers. In order to remedy the defect, the justice department had to come to the rescue with the opinion that "the President, as chief architect of foreign policy, can approve the exercise under the Visiting Forces Agreement." No one disputes the notion that the President is the fountainhead of foreign policy initiatives. And since this is a given, the opinion of Justice Secretary Hernando Perez is nothing more than a motherhood statement.

The bone of contention between the President and Vice President Teofisto Guingona, who serves concurrently as the foreign secretary, is that foreign policy also involves a process, and in the "Balikatan 02-1" exercises, the process was not observed, and this is why the defect had to be papered over by the DOJ which was forced to cite a not very original doctrine.

There are also conceptual changes in the current exercises. Previous Balikatan exercises lasted a few weeks; but now they will last from six months up to one year. It also used to be stipulated that the exercises were to be staged in safe and unpopulated places (like Fort Magsaysay in Laur, Nueva Ecija), and they were not directed at local rebels; now they are to be held right in a zone of conflict and directed at the Abu Sayyaf. Senate records on the debate over the VFA show that the context of the possible source of threat was the territorial disputes in the South China Sea, with China as the unstated threat. Now the context is the US-led war on terrorism which has been backed by the Macapagal administration, a war in which the Abu Sayyaf has been identified as part of because of its links with the al-Qaida terrorist network of Osama bin Laden.

It is this fundamental conceptual change in the implementation of the Mutual Defense Treaty and the VFA that Guingona emphasized to the President. It was also the reason he insisted that the Senate should have been involved—not to amend the VFA but to give an "authoritative interpretation" on whether its provisions can be stretched to include the new security realities that flowed from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

It requires a two-thirds vote in the Senate to approve a new treaty, which the VFA is, and a mere majority to pass an "interpretation." But in her hurry to push through with the new Balikatan exercises, Ms Macapagal opted not to ask the Senate vote for a favorable interpretation of the widening of the scope of the VFA, given the post-Sept. 11 scenario. Public opinion was in the mood to back tough military action on the Abu Sayyaf, assisted by US military experts and their hi-tech weapons. If these processes had been followed, then the administration could have gotten what it wanted, and its legal framework for the exercises would have stood on firmer ground.

The main source of the controversy raging over the US troop deployment in Basilan and Zamboanga is lack of candor and transparency on the part of the administration in going forward with the exercises. The short-cuts were unnecessary. If they had been avoided, objections against the presence of the US troops might have been muted, considering the public's growing impatience with the government's extended campaign against the Abu Sayyaf whose outcome was increasingly becoming uncertain.

A glimmer of hope at last

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I WAS talking on the telephone last Saturday with Chuck Laurel over plans for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Lyceum of the Philippines when a plane roared overhead and drowned our conversation. I took note of the time; it was 10:20 in the morning.

Such disturbances are not uncommon in Merville, Parañaque City, where I live. They have disturbed our sleep, interrupted conversations and depreciated property values. This oppressive nuisance has bothered the residents of our subdivision and adjacent villages over the years under the Aquino, Ramos, Estrada and Macapagal administrations.

We have sent numerous petitions to the government for the alleviation of our plight, but to no avail. The insolent airplanes continue to cause us much inconvenience and, worse, are impairing the health of the residents, especially the children. A television documentary hosted by Noli de Castro emphasized the gravity of our situation. Interviews with noise experts and school authorities in the affected area stressed the pernicious effects of the excessive noise upon our community.

The officials who owe us their special protection, particularly our mayor, actor Joey Marquez, and our congressman then, Roilo Golez, have been of little help. Golez, reacting to several articles I wrote, assured me that he had filed a resolution for the legislative investigation of our problem. That was all I heard from him. The airplanes have probably made Marquez himself deaf because; as far as I know, he has not lifted a finger in our behalf.

Largely through our own initiative, the Air Transportation Office decreed some years ago to limit the flights of the offending airplanes to specified hours only in the daytime. Despite this restriction, there were many times when those noisy intruders rudely awakened us at night or very early in the morning, to our justified but helpless indignation. The ATO received our grievances with token apology but did not redress them.

Lately, however, things have begun looking up. We might say, if some triteness is allowed, that we are now glimpsing the light at the end of the tunnel.

Two days after I wrote my latest article on our noise problem last July, Sen. Loren Legarda invited me to lunch with the head of the ATO, Assistant Secretary Adelberto F. Yap, so we could discuss our predicament. While waiting for her, I took offense, and testily said so, when Yap remarked smugly that our complaint was "moot and academic." Fortunately, he changed his dismissive attitude later and agreed to help us.

Senator Legarda, the ever-vigilant protector of the environment, referred our complaint to Sen. Joker Arroyo, chair of the committee on public services, environment and natural resources, who called a hearing. Yap testified on how his office has been trying to assuage our difficulties, but it seems to me that it has simply been making the motions with little enthusiasm and no appreciable success either. The arrogant airplanes are still plaguing us.

In a letter dated Jan. 14, 2002, Senator Arroyo informed me of the results of the hearing and attached a report from Yap of the measures the ATO has taken and is planning to take for the alleviation of the noise problem in Merville and adjacent subdivisions. He also sent me a copy of Senate Bill No. 1024, titled "An Act Providing for Aviation Noise Management and Reduction in Residential Areas" and filed by Sen. Manuel B. Villar Jr.

To be briefly called the "Aviation Noise Limit Act" if approved, the bill states in its declaration of policy that "the State shall protect public health by determining noise impact of residential areas near airports and by establishing programs for the management of noise levels. The State shall ensure the constitutionally protected right of quiet enjoyment of private property."

The measure provides for, among others, a definition of the area to be protected from excessive airplane noise and the maximum sound levels to be allowed during specified hours. It calls on the ATO to study "the various methods for aviation noise reduction, including sound-proofing, relocation incentives, use of quieter aircraft, operations restrictions and revision of air routes." It also prohibits the ATO from making any airspace traffic change that will result in an increase of aviation noise.

In the Lower House, Rep. Eduardo C. Zialcita, our new congressman, who appears to be more solicitous of our welfare than his predecessor, has introduced a resolution calling for the investigation in aid of legislation of our long-neglected problem. He has also delivered a privilege speech urging his colleagues to approve legislation to protect us, and other communities similarly situated, from the intrusion of insolent airplanes.

It is certain that the airlines affected will, for purely commercial reasons, oppose any legislation intended to suppress airplane noise inimical to the people's health and right of repose, as well as the constitutional mandate to protect and cleanse the environment. While the lobby from these rich companies will surely be expensive, we are hoping it will not be irresistible to a Congress whose principal concern should be the public interest and not the profit motive.

Noise pollution is as serious a menace as the pollution of the air, the soil, the waters, and all other components of the environment. It has diminished our right to enjoy our chosen places of abode without the intrusion of the noisy airplanes that have bedeviled us all these years. That right belongs not only to us in Merville but to every individual in our society who makes common cause with us in resisting administrative condonation of corporate tyranny.

Who should we fear, the US or the Abu Sayyaf?

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

THERE is a world of difference between reading or hearing reports about a certain event, and watching it unfold live on TV. The all-seeing camera allows the viewer to catch subtle nuances, or read the body language of the participants, or feel the emotional temperature in the place, all from the relative comfort of an armchair.

Moreover, the viewer can see which of the speakers is capable of conducting a discourse without having to read from a script, or determine who are paying attention (those who are not tend to ask questions that have already been answered, when it is their turn) as well as those who are genuinely concerned as opposed to those who are merely grandstanding or want to get their share of the limelight.

Certainly there are drawbacks to having an event covered live: the ham in the participants tends to surface, and matters that they would ordinarily dispose of in 10 seconds may take 10 minutes under the camera's surveillance. But that is a small price to pay for the benefit of allowing Citizen Juan first-hand rather than second-hand (and possibly distorted) information, particularly about issues of national interest.

Take the Senate hearings two days ago on the American presence in Mindanao. It had live TV coverage, which I watched until ANC, unfortunately, decided to switch back to its scheduled programs. What I read about the proceedings the next day was, to a certain extent, similar to what I had seen and heard, but a lot of the points I considered important were not highlighted. Moreover, I think at least one of the speakers quoted in the report would not have agreed with what he was reported to have said.

In any case, watching and listening to the parade of resource persons and senators, I came to the following conclusions, with which the reader who also watched the proceedings can compare with their own:

I thought that the resource person who made the most sense was Fr. Joaquin Bernas. After apologizing for not having a written presentation, he proceeded to outline, in a cogent, dispassionate manner (he obviously had no axes to grind) a framework for analyzing the situation. As I recall, he said there were legal issues, factual issues and "wisdom" issues (this last he did not touch on at all).

The legal bases for the American military presence, he said, were absolutely clear and had been presented ably by Justice Secretary Hernando Perez earlier. He also made short shrift of the controversy over whether the President had the right to override the foreign secretary (of course she has).

Equally important, to me, is what he did **not** talk about, which was the implication on our national sovereignty of the American military presence. Rightly or wrongly, I interpret this "oversight" on his part to mean that he didn't think that there was any threat to our sovereignty.

Father Bernas' discussion of some of the factual issues certainly clarified my thinking. Was it a fact that the US military presence here was in connection with a military or training exercise (as the defense and military establishment were at pains to emphasize)? If so, no problem. Totally covered by the VFA.

Suppose, however, they were here to participate in combat operations? In this case, one has to ask further questions about the nature of the Abu Sayyaf. Are they international terrorists, or are they local bandits?

If they are the former, then the RP-US Mutual Defense Treaty and a post-Sept. 11 resolution of the United Nations would justify the US presence. Father Bernas seems to think that a case can be made for considering the Abu Sayyaf as international terrorists. I agree wholeheartedly: after all, they have connections with Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida, they include foreigners within their ranks, they went to Malaysia and kidnapped tourists there, they hold foreign hostages, and even killed one.

If they are just local bandits, then, if I recall correctly, Bernas said there could be problems. In this connection, former Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile argued that the Abu Sayyaf problem is a purely local, police matter and for good measure, that there is as yet no Philippine law making terrorism a crime.

In the final analysis, the whole thing really boils down to what Bernas would perhaps classify as a "wisdom" issue. Posed as a question, it would be: Do we want the United States to help us get rid of the Abu Sayyaf? Put in another way, who should we hate or be more afraid of, the Abu Sayyaf or the United States?

I am willing to place a bet on what the majority of Filipinos would answer. I only wish that the executive branch had been more forthcoming and more transparent. Had they practiced what they preached, had they put more faith in the Filipino people, they wouldn't now have to perform a lot of mental and PR gymnastics.

To paraphrase Sen. Loren Legarda (if Bernas was the best resource person, Legarda surely posed some of the most thoughtful questions at the hearing), why go through all this obfuscation (*panlilinlang*)?

Guingona shouldn't listen to hecklers

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

AS expected, Vice President Teofisto Guingona is reaping plenty of brickbats from those who had wanted him to resign as foreign secretary, for reasons all their own. He is being taunted by some quarters for having "abandoned his principles" and doubtless some of the taunts come from those who have other candidates for his twin posts. Among the most vociferous hecklers are leftist elements, who had hoped to use him as the battering ram against a renewed fight against US interests. But as one politician who once found himself the object of leftist manipulations, put it, "*Naku, iiwanan lang si* Tito *ng mga iyan pagkatapos. Ibibilad siyang mag-isa.*"

Then there are the anti-administration elements who wanted to further destabilize the political situation. What better way to do that than to drive a wedge between the two top officials and provoke a major crisis in government?

The Guingona drama brought out manipulators with their long knives and varying agenda. But in the end, Guingona has to answer only one question: Is the national interest best served by staying in the Cabinet and playing the role of articulator of the nationalist standpoint? Or should he have resigned three days ago, when evidently the issues were still unclear and a public debate still raged? Was he correct in staying and helping clarify and refine the issues?

* * *

I submit that it was good that he stayed. In fact, had he not raised valid concerns about sovereignty and the constitutionality of the "Balikatan 2002" exercises, we might not have known that, as the President now admits, until now there is only a proposal from the US for a Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA), and that a working committee is still working on the draft. Then too, at the Senate committee hearing last Thursday, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez admitted that the memo for the Council of Foreign Ministers on the Mutual Defense Board-related Balikatan Exercises, which was signed last Jan. 14 between AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, US Embassy chargé d'affaires Robert Fitz and Colonel Moore of Jusmag (the fourth would have been Guingona, but he never got around to it) has been "superseded" by a new document signed by President Macapagal herself. Now things are suddenly getting clearer, thanks in large part to Guingona's efforts to raise valid concerns.

* * *

What Guingona's hecklers conveniently ignore is that after the arrival of the Balikatan 2002 forces, there remains a lot of work to be done vis-à-vis US involvement here and for this, the country needs a nationalist in the Cabinet. For instance, after the working committee composed of lower-level representatives from the executive department is through with the MLSA draft, it goes to a three-member Cabinet review committee created by EO 57. This is chaired by Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, with Guingona and Perez as members. Isn't it better that Guingona is there to look into this very important agreement that, to quote the Manila Times editorial yesterday, "will allow the American armed forces to preposition troops, aircraft, warships and material" here? Then there are future multilateral exercises to be conducted here.

* * *

Guingona shouldn't listen to the hecklers but to what national interest dictates. Right now his place is in the Cabinet, to provide a nationalist balance in an overwhelmingly pro-American group. He should walk the extra mile with the President and fully support her on this Abu Sayyaf issue, because the people want this menace eradicated. At some point in the future, however, should it become clear that Philippine interests are becoming jeopardized, I have little doubt that Guingona (who was a friend and contemporary of my late brother Rudy Olivares at the Ateneo de Manila; they were both actors in the famed college theater under the tutelage of the legendary Fr. Henry Lee Irwin, S.J.) will act accordingly. But let's hope that that point will not be reached.

* * *

Two *pakiusap* announcements:

- The sisters of the Carmelite Monastery of St. Therese in New Manila, Quezon City are elated over the success of their year-long Diamond Jubilee University Lecture Series that commenced last November 2000 in various universities and colleges. The lecture series was aimed particularly at the college students. In gratitude to the executive committee headed by Dr. Jose V. Abueva, former UP president, and the distinguished guest lecturers, led by former President Cory Aquino and the Vatican's Cardinal Arinze, the Carmelites are sponsoring a thank-you concert by the acclaimed pianist Reynaldo Reyes at their conference hall at No. 4 Gilmore St., QC this Monday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m.
- Tomorrow St. Paul's College of Manila holds its general alumnae homecoming and grand reunion at the Manila campus, to be led by the high school jubilarian classes of '52, '62 and '77. Registration is at 2 p.m., followed by a Thanksgiving Mass at 3 p.m., *merienda cena* and raffle at 5 p.m., and capped by a variety show, titled "An OPM Homecoming," featuring top performers and artists at the Fleur-de-Lis Auditorium. Fr. James B. Reuter will receive a special award during the concelebrated Mass at which he will officiate together with Msgr. Francisco Tantoco. Highlighting the afternoon program will be a performance by world-class concert pianist Nena del Rosario-Villanueva of class '52, this year's golden jubilarians. For inquiries, call the Alumnae Office c/o Veronica Villanueva, Tel. No. 523-4259.

Revolution and adobo

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

DO you believe that in nine years—by the year 2011—the Philippines will be under martial law and ruled by a military junta headed by a *mestizo*-looking, slightly cross-eyed, tin-pot dictator named Gen. Cyrus Racellos?

The spate of talks about coup attempts and destabilization efforts that swirled around the time of the Edsa II anniversary would seem to lend credence to the scenario. But according to Lav Diaz, the director of "Hesus: Rebolusyonaryo," the movie which lays down the premise, the film is not so much about what will or could happen in the future as what has happened in the past, and what is happening now. "An observation about history" is how Diaz described his movie during a panel discussion that followed the screening at the UP Film Center.

Before Diaz spoke, I felt a bit embarrassed about rambling on and on about martial law circa '72 when I was supposed to react to a film set nine years into the future. But the movie did set off echoes of Sept. 21, 1972. For one, the announcement of a "new moral order" that began with the burning of books and "offensive" artworks. For another, the petty abuse of power by military men—forcing civilians to sing the national anthem then beating them up if they failed to do it right in the movie; stopping public conveyances to pull out young men with long hair for compulsory hair-trimming in '72. You can't know how relieved I felt when Diaz said this was precisely what he intended. Before this, I felt it was just a sign of aging, when everything takes on the patina of the past.

* * *

"HESUS: Rebolusyonaryo" actually began with Regal Films' Mother Lily Monteverde's desire to come up with a vehicle for Mark Anthony Fernandez, a talented young actor on his nth comeback attempt.

What Diaz came up with is the story of Hesus Mariano, a young revolutionary ordered by his cell leader, Miguel Reynante (Ronnie Lazaro), to kill the other cell members on suspicion that one of them is a "worm" who's been betraying the movement. Wounded in the course of killing his comrades, Hesus is rescued by the infamous Colonel Simon (Joel Lamangan) who sets him free for mysterious reasons. On the run, hunted by both his comrades and the government, Hesus must make his way to freedom, but only after he settles scores and sorts out his loyalties.

In the process, "Hesus: Rebolusyonaryo" meditates on the nature of violence, on the conflict between ideology and loyalty, and humanity and survival. Miriam Coronel Ferrer, another panelist, sees as the only sign of salvation the "touches of humanity" that interrupt the almost endless scenes of blood and mayhem: shots of a beautiful maiden lying amid green fields of rice, the poetry that the colonel reads to Hesus to rouse him from a coma.

Complex and enigmatic, "Hesus: Rebolusyonaryo" is not your typical commercial fare, and Mother Lily deserves to be commended for gambling on the movie. But woe to those who will "judge" the film's merit according to political correctness. Like any artist, Diaz's art is intensely personal and intensely complex.

* * *

"AMERICAN Adobo" turns out to be quite an apt title for the movie. Like this staple, which turns up in both daily and festive tables, the movie combines a melange of flavors: sweet, sour, sharp, tangy, salty, tasty and familiar. Though ostensibly about Filipinos living in New York, it tries to speak about "universal" values and dilemmas.

But I don't know if this is not the reason it loses much of its Filipino identity in the process. It's still *adobo*, but it's American, as if the cook had to make do with cider vinegar and bland US-made soy sauce.

Perhaps the best way to explain this discomfiting feeling is to propose that the Filipino actors be replaced with American ones: Julia Roberts, say for Dina Bonnevie, or Andy Garcia for Christopher de Leon, Meg Ryan for Cherrie Pie Picache or even Greg Kinnear for Ricky Davao. Would the new cast make any difference? I think not. What is it about the characters' dilemmas that is both generally human and yet particularly Filipino? That's what I want to know.

Even Davao's character, who doesn't know how to tell his mother or his friends that he is gay, can be any New Yorker with roots in a small town in the Midwest, in the South, or even India. About the only thing distinctively Pinoy in the film is the food and mahjong (but that's really Chinese, isn't it?).

* * *

A PITY, because "American Adobo" is otherwise a good movie. The script is by turns heartfelt and funny, the dialogue fast-paced and laced with clever quips and asides (the characters wouldn't be New Yorkers otherwise).

In their publicity, the filmmakers said they hoped "American Adobo" would be the proverbial "foot in the door" for Filipino films in the world market. Clearly, they hoped to appeal largely to the huge Fil-American audience who would, by word of mouth, spread the word to the even larger mainland market. Still, I can't help wondering why Americans might want to go out of their way to see a movie about Filipino New Yorkers when Americans could very well fill in their shoes. Movies about yuppies coping with loneliness, frustration, alienation and heartache are a dime a dozen. Where's the meat in the *adobo*? Unfortunately, it's the Pinoy flavor, the very ingredient that could make "American Adobo" a breakthrough Filipino international film, that's been washed out in the cooking.

Disenchantment

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

AT THE RISK of being tarred and feathered for stating the obvious, the disenchantment of the urban middle class with leaders whom they feel they installed in power began not in 2001 but in 1986. It was unfair then, as it is unfair today, to expect that one woman could accomplish a total change in the system. The disenchantment therefore extends to the so-called street parliamentarians who once in government never got out and proved to be, if not more craven than their predecessors, at least at par with them. One gets the distinct impression that these people were there merely for what they could get even if they sanctimoniously used "Bayan" as their rallying cry. Not much has changed.

It should be obvious that there is no need for the President to exert extra effort to conduct a "dialogue" with the middle class unlike the slum dwellers because of the numbers involved. Who cares if the middle class votes for her or not? Even as she denies copying that poor excuse for a president that we had, the front page of this daily had a photograph showing her eating with her hands. Now there's nothing wrong with that, but a pampered child of Forbes Park, a former president's daughter married to an Arroyo-Tuason? Who are we kidding?

Like Amando Doronila, who first made the observation that the President has failed to impress the middle class, I am way over 50. But I believe I speak for people my age who aren't interested in either a charismatic leader or a statistics-based leader. What would have been heaven-sent would be a person with a vision, someone who could get us to "rally 'round the flag" because she had an image of a country that could hold its head high among the nations, if not of the world at least of Southeast Asia, someone who wasn't trying to please or appease every Tomas, Ricardo and Jose who represented a voting bloc.

Now this impression may be wrong. The problem is I have yet to read or hear a sensible program spelling out what this administration plans to do to get us out of the economic quagmire we're in. Let me just give you an example that the Wharton MBAs will no doubt find simplistic, but it's the type of reality that the majority can understand. In the United States this past Christmas, there was hardly anything to be found for sale that wasn't tagged "Made in China." The Bombay Company had lovely baskets lacquered in verdigris with simple brass hardware with a weave that could easily be made here but isn't. There were porcelain balls decorated with blue and white flowers or dragons, silver-plated tea caddies and sieves, silk fringes for lamps with Versace colors—all for less than $10. Most of the clothes at Nordstrom were also made in China. So were the leather goods.

Now China obviously is going to run rough shod over Southeast Asia. There is no way any of us can compete with her cost of labor. Will someone in government, elected or appointed, please tell us what plans they have to overcome this reality? Certainly our exports can in no way compete. I remember seeing embroidered silk slippers in a night market in Hangchow selling for the equivalent of P15 and Cashmere shawls for P150.

Buy Philippines? I did—at the bazaars this Christmas and, yes, the goods were very pretty but expensive in comparison to Chinese and even Thai goods. It is true that our labor has become expensive but so has the cost of living risen. Food in Bangkok—and certainly China—is cheap. So perhaps it's not the minimum wage that we should be looking at but the cost of basic commodities. If we are subsidizing congressmen, senators and other officials in government with free gasoline, cars, overseas travel and other perks, why can't government subsidize transportation, electricity, rice and fish?

I am sure there's a perfectly good reason, but if so, no administration official has bothered to explain. As I said, the middle class is too small to bother with. On the other hand, the disenchantment of the under-50 group is dangerous simply because these are the businessmen and entrepreneurs of tomorrow. They are educated and skilled. If other countries offer them and their children a better future, who will produce the wealth in this country?

Even if there were a coup, what guarantees are there that the new leaders will not be cut from the same pattern? Come on, it's the same system that produced the present set of self-seeking incompetents. Unfortunately as one commentator noted, our leaders are not about to institute reforms in the system simply because they're its greatest beneficiaries.

At this point, watching the so-called nationalists get hysterical over the presence of US forces in Basilan is pathetic. What sovereignty? Has anybody mentioned the Spratlys lately or don't they realize we're incapable of defending them against China or for that matter any other country that may want them? As for the Abu Sayyaf, there were 100 of them against 5,000 of our sterling forces some time ago and our military bragged that it was all over save for the cheering. Yeah, sure. Kidnappings are not confined to the South or to Chinese victims, it's a free for all wherever there's a buck to be made.

The time for speeches, especially politically oriented ones, is over. I don't think the people care one way or another whether the leader is charismatic or boringly mired in numbers, but will our leaders get their priorities straight (I don't mean 2004) and tell us where we're going and how we're going to get there?

Letter to my daughters

YOUNGBLOOD

Leigh Formilleza Ngo

*We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.***

DEAR Leila and Julia,

Time has passed and I have seen you both grow. Perhaps, I cannot fully say that you both have really grown considering that you, Leila, are only a little above my knees and you, my tiny Julia, are even smaller than my favorite sleeping pillow. You still cannot talk, write or read, so you might ask why I am writing this letter for you.

Every night I watch you both sleep in your crib beside my bed. The tiny floral lamp slightly illuminates your little angelic faces amid the darkness of the night. The serenity of this holy hour allows me to hear your faint breathing. Amazingly, although you are sleeping, there seems to be so much life in you.

At times, when it is cold, I touch and feel the soles of your feet to check if they are cold. I always put a blanket over you even if I know it will surely be cast aside.

Never did I miss a single night without uttering a prayer to my guardian angel, asking him to watch over you in your sleep. I ask mine because I know that your angels are tired after playing with you during the day, and I assume that they are babies, too, so I let them sleep with you. Before I close my eyes, I touch your heart and feel your pulse and thank God for the gift of life.

Tonight, while I was doing this daily routine, I thought of the little boy in Bethlehem, who was born in a lowly manger more than 2,000 years ago. He did not have a blanket or a pillow to cushion His head while He slept. No doctors or nurses to attend to His needs. Little did the world during His time know that He had the greatest mission of all: to sacrifice Himself to redeem mankind.

As He grew, He experienced pain and suffering because of the very little faith people had in Him. He was tortured and crucified.

Despite all these, He continued to teach that there is a greater purpose for all of us here on earth. And this purpose is not to simply live, but to live simply and righteously. It must be hard to live that way since that young boy had to grow up only to be hanged and crucified so that we might do so.

That young boy was Jesus. He gave Himself as a sacrifice to save us from all our sins. If not for Him, we would not be able to experience life, its beauty and wonders.

In today's world of haste and waste, we often forget the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made for our sake. I tend to get pessimistic just watching the evening news on TV. I sigh as I fail to remember a single day when no killings were reported.

Yet I am still full of hope that there will come a time when all evil will be conquered. The world is not hopeless. And I see this in you, my children. The very little innocence and peace the world still has are reflected in your little wondrous ways. It's amazing how you can make people smile so sincerely and spontaneously. You are the hope of the world.

As your mom, I know I have a big part to play. Many times, I've asked myself, will I be able to teach you how to love God above all? I have to ask because I know that if you truly love and appreciate God, you will understand His will and follow His commandments. And from this will spring all the other virtues and values that will guide you so you can live simply and righteously and happily.

Will I be able to instill in you the discipline that will make you realize that freedom has boundaries? That you can't play or watch TV during study hours?

Will I be able to show you and make you believe in justice so that you may give to others what is due them and play fair always?

Will I be able to teach you prudence so that you will think correctly and act correctly, too? For instance, if you know that hearing Sunday Mass is right, you'll never skip any Sabbath day.

Will I be able to inculcate in you temperance so that you'll know that having anything less or in excess may be bad? So that in whatever you do, acquire or desire, you'll know when and where to stop?

Will you be able to know that hard work is most fulfilling? And that the most delicious cookie is the one that you baked perfectly after trying a hundred times?

Will I be able to teach you honesty so that you will know that the truth will set you free? So that if you see a P10 bill fall out of your cousin's pocket, you'll return it to her because it is hers?

Will I be able to teach you the simple things in life such as thoughtfulness so that you will always show concern and love for your loved ones? Grandma's smile cannot be bigger than when you give her a greeting card especially made by you on her birthday.

Will I be able to teach you to count the things you don't have—such as cancer, pending bills or a sore eye—so you will appreciate your blessings even more?

Will I be able to teach you humility to know that all men are created equal? That whether our neighbor is black, brown or yellow, you'll still give him an apple pie and welcome him as a friend?

Will I be able to make you realize the value of gratitude? That saying "Thank you" to your piano teacher after every session will surely make her feel appreciated and all the more inspired?

Will I be able to teach you the value of optimism which makes you continue moving despite all the hurdles before you? If that 100-meter-dash race is making your legs heavy, it will help to think that you can finish the race because you believe in yourself.

Will I be able to instill in you initiative, which lets you act on your own without prompting? So that you'll throw that candy wrapper in the trash can without being told to do so?

Will I be able to teach you to have faith, hope and charity—the most powerful engines for living a good and meaningful life?

Will I be able to teach you to have enough faith to accept the truth which cannot be demonstrated or proved by logical thought? So that you will believe that God is present, in your heart, even if you don't see Him? And that Christians and Muslims and other religious groups will eventually unite despite their differences?

Will I be able to teach you hope, which makes you believe that something you long for will eventually come at the right time and at the right place? That soon Filipinos will have a set of moral, honest and selfless government officials to bring the country out of the drowning economic crisis?

Will I be able to teach you charity, the greatest love of all, to love God above anything and to love others as you love yourselves? This is the greatest virtue of all, and from it every other virtue springs. It will make you learn to forgive a person who has caused you the greatest pain.

Will I be able to teach you to pray to God for guidance and strength, for everything is within your grasp only if you let God move your chessboard of life?

My children, you may not be able to read this letter as you grow up. But this will serve as my guide so that a sincere yes will be my answer to every question. This will be my promise that no matter what it takes, I'll try to mold you both into persons of good moral character because you are the miracles that happened in my life, in your father's life and to the millions who love you.

Leigh Formilleza Ngo, 21, is a graduate of the University of Asia and the Pacific.

Good governance key to good performance

THIS is with regard to the INQUIRER news item last Jan. 16, 2002 wherein Raul Concepcion was quoted as saying that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was a good manager, but not a leader.

I wish I knew in what context this was said because its interpretation may be different depending on it. Concepcion has been quite supportive of the current administration so his statement was a surprise to me.

Depending on the situation, either leadership or management is important for good performance. Some situations require a leader; others require a manager. Heads of organizations shift back and forth between leadership and management roles depending on the particular problem that they are resolving.

For the head of the Philippine government, I believe overall good governance is key to performance. Good governance, without distinguishing between leadership and management, delivers results.

According to Webster Dictionary, both leading and managing involve directing things (i.e., implementation). To lead is "to direct the operations, activity or performance of" while to manage is "to direct or carry on business or affairs." Governance involves also directing, but this is at the level of policy. Webster defines govern as "to control and direct the making and administration of policy in."

Good governance is not a function or the consequence of the style of the head of a government. Strong styles practiced by political leaders like Deng Xiaoping and Lee Kuan Yew have been shown to deliver results.

I agree with Concepcion's views on the following:

- Stopping politicking totally so full attention can be focused on our country's problems is not possible.
- Uniting people from all sectors is one of the most important duties of the head of government.
- Expectations from President Macapagal's administration should be compared to its performance or results.
- Solving the country's economic problems "will put the people on (her) side and pave the way for her victory in the 2004 polls."

However, I do not agree with his views on the following:

- The President does not need to change her management style (e.g., *mataray* and all-knowing) to deliver results.
- Setting her sights on the 2004 elections and solving the country's problems are not necessarily inconsistent.

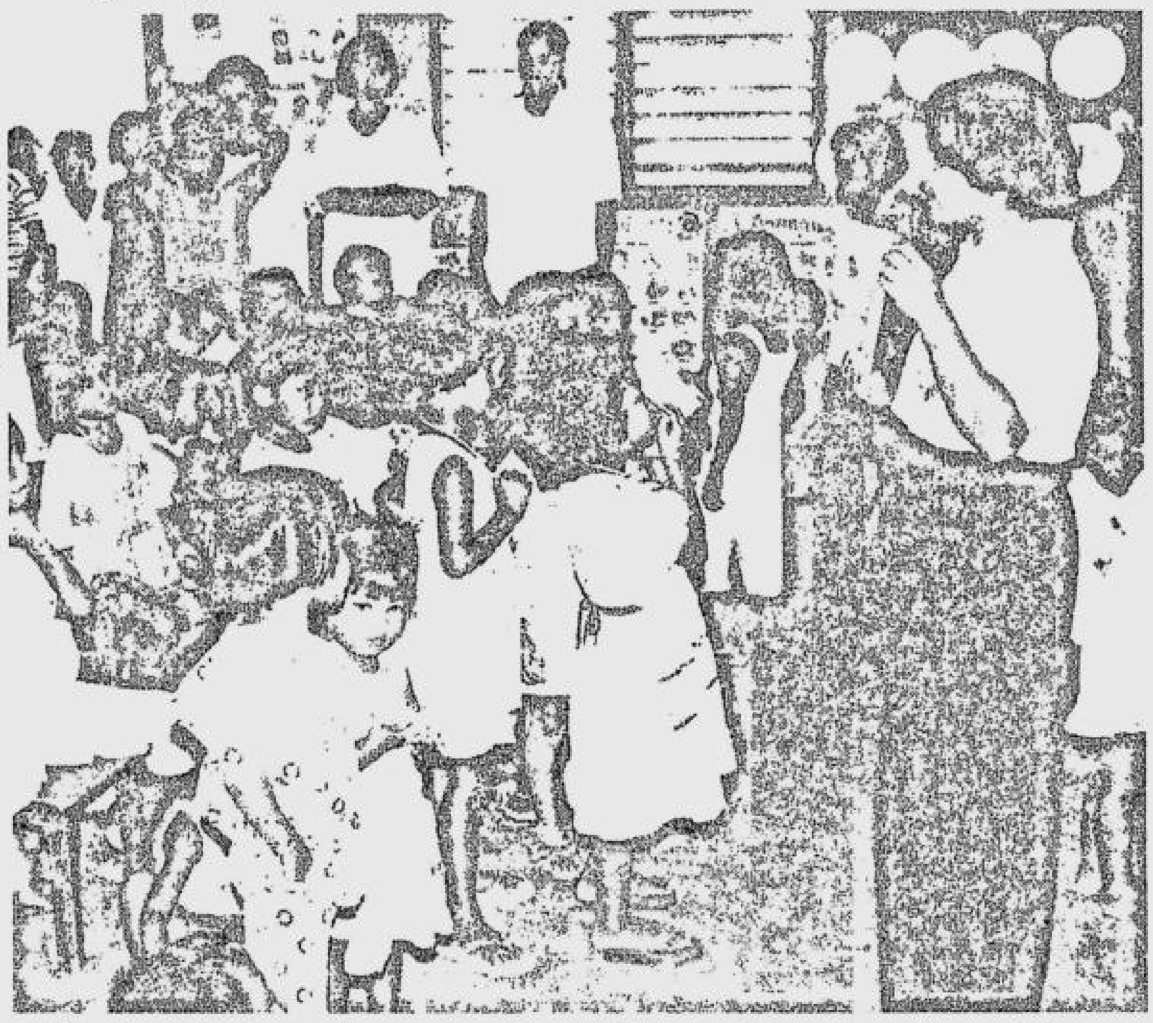
The two objectives can diverge and if this adversely affects her performance, the country will suffer the consequences. And this will also affect her reelection chances.

In her first State of the Nation Address last July 2001, President Macapagal set the expectations from her administration at the end of one year. It is too soon to judge her performance after six months. Therefore, disappointment arising from nondelivery of results is premature at this point.

In the final analysis, what counts is performance, results and benefits to the people. I believe that President Macapagal is willing to be judged on the basis of performance criteria. And so it is appropriate for all sectors, including business, to expect her administration to deliver.

Based on the Makati Business Club survey released recently, the business sector is still optimistic about the prospects of the Philippine economy under the President.—**R. S. NAVARRO, chair, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., RCBC Head Office, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City**

More advantages in assigning teachers closer home



I WISH to comment on the letter, "Trouble over assignment of teachers," written by Guadalupe L. Maisog last Dec. 28, 2001.

I disagree with her opinion that there is more trouble in assigning teachers to their own communities. In fact, that has been reversed with the passage of Republic Act 8190. The problem concerning the transfer of teachers was minimized, if not totally solved. Why? Because teachers who are assigned to their own localities need not apply for transfer. I believe that there are more advantages in assigning teachers to their own barangay oi municipality for the following reasons:

1. Economic reasons: The teachers assigned to their own barangay or municipality do not spend more for their transportation and *baon* or *merienda*, resulting in savings for them. They can even just walk to school.
2. Efficiency and effectiveness: Teachers assigned to their own barangay or municipality improve their punctuality and attendance because they are near their schools. This helps improve their efficiency and effectiveness. Moreover, they try to do try their best because their pupils are the sons and daughters of their relatives and friends in the community.
3. Teachers assigned to their barangay or municipality are highly motivated since they know they are serving their own communities
4. I believe RA 8190 has been carried out after a lot of study and consultations.

As to Maisog's observation that the establishment of schools in all barangays is sometimes impractical and a waste of resources, I would say that this does more good than harm. More Filipinos can be educated because schools are more accessible.

I know these problems in the educational system, because I worked with the Department of Education for 42 years: three as a classroom teacher, six as teacher in charge, five as head teacher, five as principal I, one as principal II, one as principal III, and 21 as a district supervisor.

Besides, I believe that assigning teachers to their own or near their place of residence and putting schools in all barangays are in line with the decentralized concept of governance and empowering people for mass-based democracy.—**HERIBERTO A. BAUTISTA, Office of the Mayor, Pozorrubio, Pangasinan**

National Power Corporation

January 17, 2002

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. Project: MRCC-2001-01, Construction of Mindanao Regional Control Center Building at Carmen Substation, Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City (Back-up System).
2. The contract to be performed by the successful bidder shall consist of furnishing all materials, labor, tools, equipment and supervision for the construction of the Mindanao Regional Control Center Building.

   Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid: P50,000,000.00
3. Application for Eligibility is open to all Filipino Contractors with the following valid License and Registration Particulars issued by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB).

   License Particular: **At least AA - General Building**
   Registration Particular: **At least Large A - Building & Industrial Plant**
4. Application for Eligibility (legal, technical and financial documents and statements) shall be evaluated using the "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only Eligible Bidders shall be invited by NPC in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the contractor's offer to the contract under bidding; and shall be subject to Postqualification before an award is made. Bid prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be rejected and returned outright.
5. Application for Eligibility and Eligibility Forms will be available for issuance starting **January 23, 2002** at the Bids & Contracts Management Department Office, Second Floor, Building No. 2, NPC-OBC, National Power Corporation, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1104, Telefax No.: 921-2308 upon presentation of Letter of Intent, original PCAB and payment of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) per copy.
6. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Eligibility Forms, documents and statements shall be on **February 25, 2002** and shall be submitted at the registration office and address mentioned above. If the date is declared a non-working day, the deadline for submission shall be moved to the next working day immediately following said date. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
7. NPC reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
8. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **A.T. CORPUZ**
Chairman
Contracts Award Committee

(PDI – Jan. 23, 26 & Feb. 6, 2002)

Ople's new website

THIS is in relation to the article by the INQUIRER last Jan. 14, 2002 on its Infotech page titled, "Senators' websites hacked."

I would like to inform the public that the mentioned site www.sen-ople.easy.net.ph is no longer my official website. Our contract with our Web host, EasyNet of Meco Technologies, expired in December 2000. My official website can now be viewed at www.blasople.com and it is being hosted in the United States by a first-level Web host and a secured site manager.

My website was completely redesigned for the 12th Congress and it features articles and press releases relevant to current issues. You can also visit my Digital Library wherein you can find abstracts of my books and monographs published and unpublished. Within my website, you can also download the "Ople Reader" in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, our official newsletter. Inside, you can also have access to information like Philippine laws, statutes and codes and these are downloadable.

The website also includes features from the official Senate website (www.senate.gov.ph) like the session calendar, schedule of committee hearings, advisories about the Philippine Senate, the senators and committees and the bills and resolutions being filed.

I would like to emphasize a provision stated in Section 3 of Republic Act 8792 otherwise known as the E-Commerce Law which states:

"The following Acts shall be penalized by fine and/or imprisonment, as follows:

"(a) Hacking or cracking which refers to unauthorized access into or interference in a computer system/server or information and communication system; or any access in order to corrupt, alter, steal, or destroy using a computer or other similar information and communication devices, without the knowledge and consent of the owner of the computer or information and communications system, including the introduction of computer viruses and the like, resulting in the corruption, destruction, alteration, theft or loss of electronic data messages or electronic document shall be punished by a minimum fine of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000) and a maximum commensurate to the damage incurred and a mandatory imprisonment of six (6) months to three (3) years."—**SEN. BLAS F. OPLE**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Baseless, misleading complaints

I WISH to respond to and clarify the issues raised by Ka Mameng Deunida of Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap (Kadamay) in her letter titled, "Arrogance of top government officials," last Jan. 18.

Ka Mameng's article was a distorted report of what transpired during my Jan. 3 meeting with the people's organizations representing the victims of the Payatas landslide and the families of the six children invited to the State of the Nation Address. The article depicted me as an "arrogant" government official whose position of power has gone to my head, making me "blow my top," "verbally lash" and "castigate" the victims of the Payatas tragedy, particularly the parents of Jayson, Erwin and Jomar, for "placing the Macapagal administration in a bad light" in their media interviews. It was a personal attack on my integrity, and its primary objective was to create confusion and undermine the healing process and the coordination we are undertaking with the Payatas community.

Ka Mameng is not in a position to report on what happened as she was not even at the meeting. Last Jan. 3, we invited the families of the six children and the leaders of the three POs to discuss their situation and the status of the educational assistance and livelihood projects they had been given pursuant to the commitments made by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. We also invited the two NGOs which are helping the three POs—Kadamay and Kristong Hari Foundation—but only the latter was represented. According to the PO leaders who attended, Kadamay officers knew about the meeting but they opted not to join because they were then preparing for several mobilizations,

For the record, I did not blow my top, castigate, or verbally lash at any of my invited guests. The meeting was called precisely to find out how the families were, and to clarify issues so that the government could be guided in its efforts to address their concerns. While all of them admitted that they had been interviewed by newspaper and TV reporters, most denied the quotes attributed to them. Be that as it may, I stressed during the meeting that everyone was free to express his or her views, but there was a need for continuing dialogue to ensure that issues were clarified and that there was accurate and fair reporting.

The meeting lasted for more than three hours and only a few minutes were devoted on media reports. Much of our discussion focused on the families' livelihood projects, the status of the POs' community projects, and the educational assistance to the children, and not just those who were invited to the Sona, but the more than 400 children-beneficiaries of the PGMA-Payatas Scholarship Program. We also tackled housing and land-related concerns of the families, as well as their quest for justice in behalf of the direct victims of the landslide.

The entire meeting was recorded on video and I would like to invite Ka Mameng and anyone who may be interested to get in touch with our Public Affairs Office (Tel. Nos. 931-9143/931-8101 loc. 113) so that they can view the tape and see for themselves how the dialogue went.—**CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN, secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City**

* * *

I WAS very surprised to read the letter of Carmen "Mameng" Deunida last Jan. 18, accusing Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman of arrogance. I attended that meeting held in the afternoon of Jan. 3, 2002 in behalf of the Kristong Hari Foundation Inc. (KHFI) which helped plan the Bangkang Papel Project together with the representatives of the community organizations most affected by the July 10, 2000 Payatas tragedy. The meeting was called to discuss the issues highlighted in media reports about alleged failed commitments of the government to the "*bangkang papel* kids" and to get suggestions on what else the government could do for them, their families and their communities.

Ka Mameng, as she is known to many, was not in that meeting. Neither was she in any of the discussions and planning for the Bangkang Papel Project as to be acquainted with the details from which to draw her conclusions. I believe that she was made to put her name (and stake her credibility) on a letter whose contents she may not have been aware of. It was a fabrication, a lie and obviously calculated to fit into an organized media portrayal of the current administration as a failure one year after Edsa Dos.

It was utterly irresponsible and most unfair to the secretary who has never been known for having a short temper. No words spoken, or gestures made came close to describing correctly her conduct in that meeting like Ka Mameng did with her use of terms. There was no "tongue-lashing (of) the audience." And I can say for sure that she did not "blow her top." Neither did she "castigate" anybody nor was there a "display of arrogance" so that "Ka Mameng was taken aback." I cannot recall any "stinging remarks" or gestures that one can aptly term as "tantrums." And I really don't know how the meeting could ever have taken a "macabre turn." And when she wailed, "How power gets into a person's head," it begged the question and summed up the malicious intent of that letter.

We, from the civil society can disagree with whatever the government is doing. As citizens in a democracy we have the right and even the duty to bring into the open our grievances and disagreements with the way this government is being run. But commitment to truth and justice is what qualifies us as true advocates or fighters for reforms, good governance and for whatever we envision a government to be. To advance and defend truth, we marched to Edsa in February 1986. We did the same thing in in January 2001. Edsa has no value for those who went there for other reasons.—**JEANNETTE R. DUMO, community development officer, Kristong Hari Foundation Inc., Sipna Compound, Barangay Bagong Silangan, Quezon City**

Veteran's widow's uncollected benefits

I AM a retired public school teacher who "unluckily" is a World War II veteran widow. I am writing on behalf of the other veteran widows who may be suffering the same fate as mine.

My husband died 22 years ago in 1980 but I wasn't aware of his status as a war veteran until I came across his service record last August 2001 accidentally while looking for the birth certificate of my youngest son.

I verified with the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (Camp Aguinaldo) using the service record and the other pertinent papers, and I was informed that I am entitled to an old age pension like other widows of veterans. I was advised to file my application and submit the pertinent documents.

I received a letter informing me of my inclusion in the 2001 budget with this number: Master List 01-02096 and with claim number 01-01-7586. The letter also stated that my first check would be mailed in due time and that the arrears would follow.

I did some follow-ups after a few months, but the PVAO gave me different answers. One employee said that the budget for 2001 was intended only for regular pensioners. Other employees kept saying that no funds were available for new pensioners, and so I have to wait for the availability of funds. For how long, I don't know.

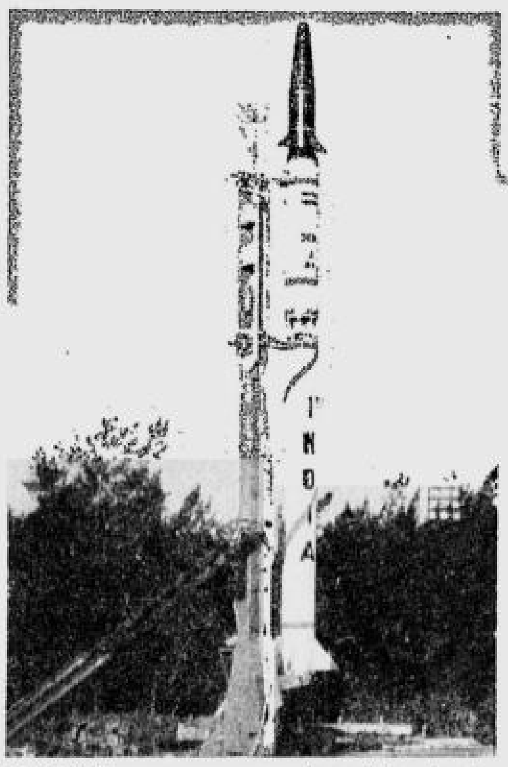
I'm wondering what will happen to the arrears covering 10 long years if even the meager amount of P4,500 monthly cannot be released.

I appeal to the President and I hope she will be kind enough to spare me a little of her time. I am already 66 years old and I don't know for how long I will be enjoying the benefit that I am supposed to enjoy. This is the fruit of my husband's heroism and service to our country.—**ANTONIA V. ALMONTE, 23 Villaluz St., Barangay Kalayaan, Angono, Rizal**

The WORLD

Luvern B. Gueco, Editor

India tests nuke-capable missile



INDIA'S longer-range version of the Agni ballistic missile is seen in this April 11, 1999 file photo. REUTERS

NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD—India on Friday flexed its muscles by test-firing a missile seen as the linchpin of its nuclear capability and was immediately slammed by Pakistan which said it could destabilize the already tense region.

New Delhi said it had tested a shorter variant of its nuclear-capable Agni missile as part of a series meant to guarantee the credibility of its nuclear forces, a deterrent to nuclear-capable China and Pakistan.

Analysts said the test—on the eve of India's most important national celebration, Republic Day—was meant to send a message to the world that New Delhi is resolved in the standoff with Pakistan.

The nuclear-armed neighbors have massed about a million men along their border after India blamed a Dec. 13 suicide raid on its parliament on Pakistan-based militants, demanding Islamabad crush the groups and surrender 20 people on its most-wanted list.

The dispute has stoked fears of war between the two countries who have fought three wars since independence in 1947 and conducted tit-for-tat nuclear tests in 1998.

India said the timing of the test was based on technical factors but Pakistan condemned it.

"We hope the international community will take note of this Indian behavior, which is prejudicial to the pursuit of stability in our region, especially during the current situation," the Pakistan foreign ministry said in a statement.

On Thursday, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan met Pakistani leader Pervez Musharraf and called for talks to avert a fourth war.

Annan said the neighbors needed to address the fundamental issues that divided them, including over disputed Kashmir, cause of two of their three wars.

"The immediate need is for military de-escalation, but de-escalation and an end to the immediate crisis is not enough," Annan said. "The world does not want another crisis in a few weeks or a few months' time."

Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Nirupama Rao said the missile test in the Bay of Bengal, off eastern India, had a range of less than 700 km.

The Agni series of missiles—being developed to carry nuclear warheads—have in the past been tested to a range of more than 2,000 km and can carry a payload of up to one ton.

The longer-range version is seen by defense analysts as a deterrent to China, rather than Pakistan. *Reuters*

FBI unsure if Osama is dead or alive

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan—The director of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation said Thursday that he's unsure if anyone knows whether Osama bin Laden is dead or alive.

Speculation about Bin Laden took a new twist last week when Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf said that the Saudi-born terror mastermind had a kidney ailment and may have died if unable to get dialysis treatment during the US bombardment of Afghanistan.

"I think there's some ideas or some discussion as to whether or not he has survived either the bombing or his medical condition," Robert Mueller told a news conference. "I'm not certain that anybody knows for sure either where Osama bin Laden is, or as to whether he is still alive."

Mueller met Pakistani law enforcement officials to deepen cooperation toward preventing new terror attacks and praised them for "aggressively" finding and detaining members of Bin Laden's network fleeing the US military campaign in Afghanistan.

Since the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States, Mueller said, Pakistan has gone further than any country in supporting the war on terrorism. The cooperation was "unprecedented and cannot be compared to that of other countries. It has been superb," Mueller said.

Mueller said that he was unaware if al-Qaida fighters, finding escape through Pakistan blocked, had begun fleeing in great numbers through Afghanistan's western border with Iran.

"I think we're worried about al-Qaida operatives bleeding through Iran, and to the extent that there can be something done about that, I am sure that there are others in the American government undertaking discussions with Iran," Mueller said.

Earlier this week, Iran reinstated visa requirements for citizens of Gulf Arab nations, saying it wanted to prevent al-Qaida from using the country as an escape route. *AP*

Bush asks $38B for homeland security

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush asked Congress for $38 billion to strengthen US defenses against terrorism Thursday, a doubling of spending for intelligence, border security and other measures to thwart enemies who "still want to come after us."

"We're still under attack," Bush said. "These are evil people."

Addressing US mayors in the East Room of the White House, Bush said he wants Congress to give localities $3.5 billion of the new money to help police, firefighters and health care officials respond to any terrorist strikes.

"The president understands what comes first in homeland security: our first responders," Tom Ridge, director of homeland security, told the mayors. "They died for their country on Sept. 11; they risked their lives every day before and since. They deserve and will get the support of this administration."

Although Bush said he was doubling spending, his projections were open to debate because they were based on the White House definition of homeland defense funding in dozens of agency budgets. The calculations were designed to yield the highest-possible projected increase.

Democratic and Republican mayors said any new money would be welcome.

"I don't think anybody can fault or criticize this giant leap in terms of funding," said Marc Morial, Democratic mayor of New Orleans.

However, Rep. Jane Harman said the money won't be spent wisely unless Ridge's office gains focus.

"The administration has pursued a clear and committed war strategy against the Taliban regime and al-Qaida. But our homeland security strategy, which may affect millions more Americans, has been ad hoc, inconsistent and confusing," she said in a telephone interview. *AP*

Congratulations to the winners

KOOLFEVER KOOLCASH

Grand Prize P100,000

ARNEL T. VILLADOLID
115 5th St. GHQ Signal
Village, Taguig, M.M.
**MDC-Novaliches Quirino*

Second Prize of P50,000 each

METRO MANILA
DIANA A. SUMACOT
7-E Cotabato St.
Bago Bantay Q.C
Tel. 434-67-10
920-67-43 / 330-89-39
**MDC-Congressional*

LUZON
PRECELIO PANGAI
135 Sunrise Subd. Arellano
Bani, Dagupan City
Tel. 522-23-81
**Farmacia La Concordia*

VISMIN
FLORIBEL R. AGDUMA
Pob. Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat
Tel.064-200-38-61
**Jeanette Pharmacy Lambayong*

20 Consolation Prizes of P10,000 each

DAISY ROXAS
604 H. Monroy St.,
Navotas, M.M.
**MDC - Agora*

MA. CHRISTINE TRACY
Blk. 3 Lot. 13 Equity Homes III
**MDC - Jaka Plaza*

LORRAINE CAJAYON
Sta. Marta St. San Antonio Valley I
Sucat , Paranaque City
Tel. 892-62-12
**MDC - Jaka Plaza*

ARTEMIO D. BULOSAN JR.
1168 Vicente Cruz Sampaloc,
Tel. 731-46-79
**MDC-Forbes Sampaloc, Manila*

RENATO A. ALMIROL
274 - Concejala St. Bagong Bo.,
Caloocan City
Tel. 443-02-37
**MDC-Polo Valenzuela City*

NELIA D. SEBASTIAN
170 Pinahan St. Mabolo Bacoor,
Tel. 434-05-37
**MDC-Talaba, Bacoor Cavite*

MA. GEMMA DIAMANTE
Brgy. Bayag Sur Leon, Iloilo
Tel. 0917-331-23-32
**Mauring Store*

ARGIE S. GAGARIN
11-B Luzon Ave. Galas Quezon City
Tel. 715-54-08 / 715-59-72
**MDC-Teresa*

MARY ANN B. REYES
Brgy. Yangco, Banga, South
Cotabato
**Ginress Pharmacy*

LIZABELLE A. ESTANDORTE
St. Teresa School of Baesa
362 Quirino Highway Baesa,
Quezon City
**MDC-Visayas Avenue*

CHRISTINE R. EBARLE
Pob. I- A Maragondon, Cavite
Tel. 046-412-10-49
**Polar Air Drugstore*

MA. CECILIA L. CARALDE
Tup-on Medina Misamis Oriental
**MDC - Surigao Branch*

MIRASOL BELEN
Brgy. San Rafael, San Pablo City
Alcasid Pharmacy
**Bucal, Calamba City*

HELEN G. ALCANTARA
638 Instruccion St. Sampaloc,
**MDC - Espana Manila*

MARY JANE L. QUIAMO
149 Medicion 11-B Imus, Cavite
Tel. 0918-783-45-83
**Green Heaven Pharmacy*

IRENEO RABANO
B-34 L-14 Lagro Subd., Novaliches,
Quezon City
Tel. 930-26-17
**MDC-Fairview*

EDDIE A. GANORIA
Blk. 2 Samatado Comp. Tanigue St.
D. Dagatan Caloocan City
Tel. 0919-749-61-46 / 235-90-01
**MDC-Meycauayan Plaza*

KARINA G. MATA
Marcos Ave. Apopong
General Santos City
Tel. 0919-272-85-06
**MDC - Acharan City*

FRANCIS JOHN V. FELIX
10 Ramos St., Lingayen Pangasinan
Tel. 0919-621-20-91
Dagupan City
**MDC-Magsaysay, Dagupan City*

MANNIX MENDOZA
1747 G. Perfecto St. Tondo Manila
Tel. 254-32-64
**MDC-Tugatog*

MIRIAM M. RIVERA
Blk. 63 Lot 3 Phase III C-3 Karangalan
Village, Pasig City
Tel. 646-98-28
**MDC-San Joaquin*

*Winning Stores will each receive P2,500

All winners will be contacted by Philusa Corp., 631-1731 to 39

Thank you for joining and keep on buying

KOOLFEVER

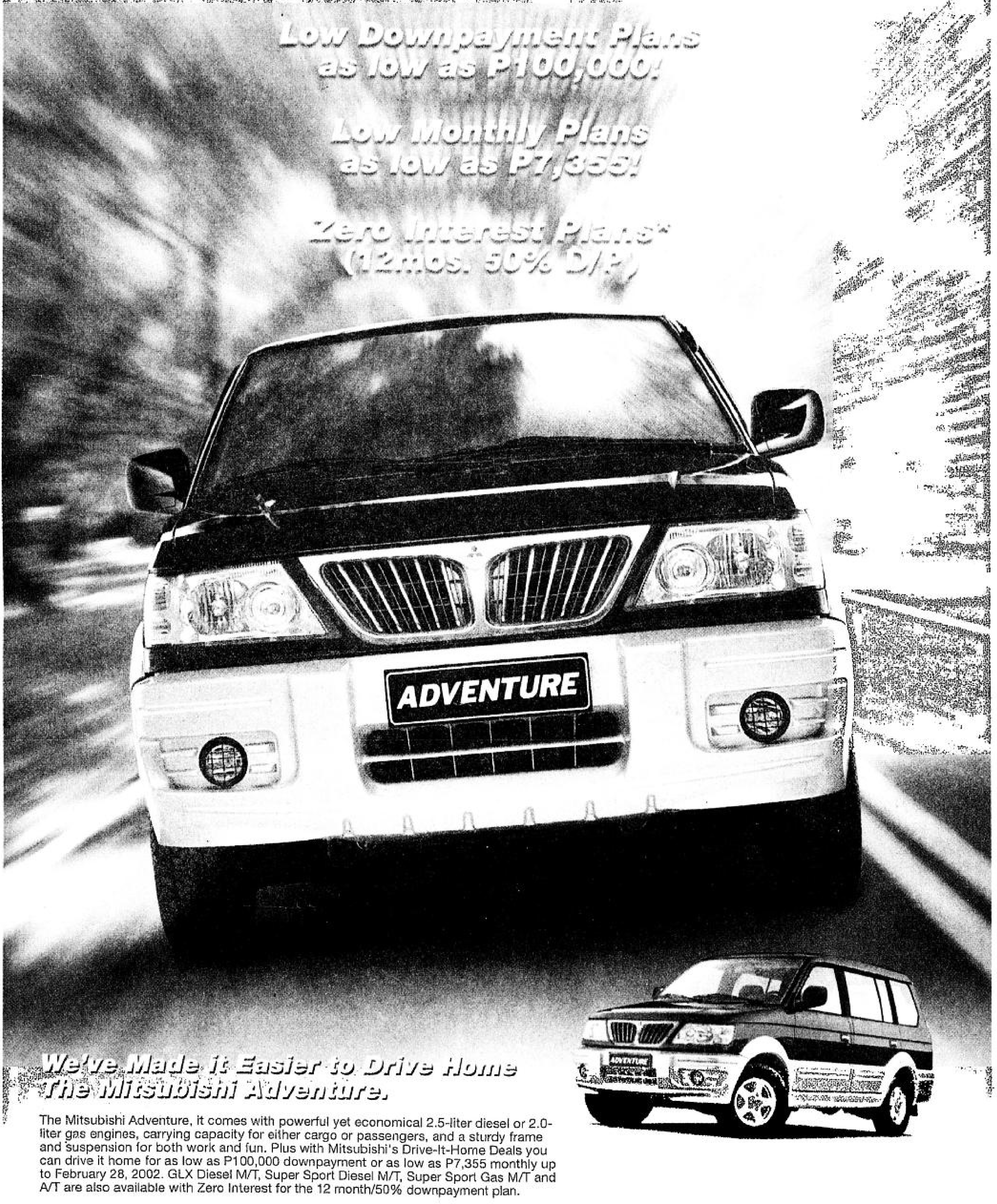
Kool Fever kids size. Kool Fever adult size.

KOBAYASHI PHARMACEUTICAL

Per DTI-NCR Permit 1159 Series of 2002

Find out how easy it is to own one.

MITSUBISHI DRIVE-IT-HOME Deals


Low Downpayment Plans as low as P100,000!
Low Monthly Plans as low as P7,355!
Zero Interest Plans* (12mos. 50% D/P)
ADVENTURE
We've Made it Easier to Drive Home The Mitsubishi Adventure.

The Mitsubishi Adventure, it comes with powerful yet economical 2.5-liter diesel or 2.0-liter gas engines, carrying capacity for either cargo or passengers, and a sturdy frame and suspension for both work and fun. Plus with Mitsubishi's Drive-It-Home Deals you can drive it home for as low as P100,000 downpayment or as low as P7,355 monthly up to February 28, 2002. GLX Diesel M/T, Super Sport Diesel M/T, Super Sport Gas M/T and A/T are also available with Zero Interest for the 12 month/50% downpayment plan.

Low D/P Plan

Model	ESP	20% D/P	24 mos.	36 mos.
GL Diesel M/T	611,000	100,000	24,411	17,453
GLX Gas M/T	645,000	100,000	25,770	18,424
Diesel M/T	670,000	100,000	26,769	19,138
GLS Gas M/T	705,000	100,000	28,167	20,138
Gas A/T	740,000	100,000	29,565	21,138
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	100,000	28,766	20,566
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	134,000	30,764	21,994
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	130,000	29,965	21,423
Gas A/T	790,000	138,000	31,563	22,566

*All Plans Subject to Bank Approval

Low Monthly Plan / Zero Interest Plans*(12mos. 50% D/P)

Model	ESP	50% D/P	12 mos.	36 mos.	60 mos.
GL Diesel M/T	611,000	305,000	26,383	10,371	7,355
GLX Gas M/T	645,000	322,500	27,852	10,949	7,765
Diesel M/T	670,000	335,000	*27,917	11,373	8,066
GLS Gas M/T	705,000	352,500	30,442	11,967	8,487
Gas A/T	740,000	370,000	31,954	12,561	8,908
GLS Diesel M/T	720,000	360,000	31,090	12,222	8,668
Super Sport Diesel M/T	770,000	385,000	*32,083	13,071	9,270
Super Sport Gas M/T	750,000	375,000	*31,250	12,731	9,029
Gas A/T	790,000	395,000	*32,917	13,410	9,511

MITSUBISHI ADVENTURE
Designed for the Filipino family.

Special deals for cash buyers!

Promo ends February 28, 2002

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0077 Series Of 2002

No. 1 COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALES 2001
Based on 2001 CAMPI TMA Report

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

Ask us about:
Auto credit plans
Service Plus Card

See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!

WE'RE EVERYWHERE TO SERVE YOU:
METRO MANILA: CITIMOTORS - Makati - Tels. 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS - Las Piñas - Tels. 875-1748, 873-0503, 875-1766, 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR - Greenhills - Tels. 727-0351 to 75, 721-0336, 724-5353 DIAMOND MOTOR - Marcos Highway - Tels. 645-4801 to 05 681-4101 681-4133 DIAMOND MOTOR - Quezon Avenue - Tels. 372-3001 to 15, 414-9440 to 42, 414-9433 to 37 DIAMOND MOTOR - Fairview - Tels. 418-3042, 935-3731 to 32 UNION MOTOR - Abad Santos - Tels. 251-7021 to 36, 253-1372 to 74 UNION MOTOR - Paco - Tels. 563-0481 to 86, 563-8161 to 67, 563-5679, 563-5866, 563-5088, 562-7203 UNION MOTOR - Kalookan - Tels. 364-20-61 to 69, 364-0147, 364-0149, 364-0422, 364-9762 MITSUBISHI MOTORS - Balintawak - Tels. 330-6901, 330-6903 LUZON: CARWORLD - Pampanga - Tels. (045) 961-2601 to 03, 961-3406, 961-5600, 961-3040, 961-5620 CARWORLD - Tarlac - Tels. (045) 982-5551 to 53 (045) 982-4640 CARWORLD- Marilao- Tel Nos. (044) 711-2895 to 2897, 711-2489 CARWORLD - Malolos - Tels. (044) 791-0320, (044) 791-2405 to 06, Cel. No. (0918) 231-7819 CARWORLD- Olongapo- Tel Nos. (047) 224-4307 FREEWAY MOTOR - Baliuag - (044) 766-4235 to 36 FREEWAY MOTOR - Isabela - Tel 682-8401 FREEWAY MOTOR - Cabanatuan - Tels. (044) 463-1391, 463-5105 MOTORPLAZA - Calasiao - Tels. (075) 522-2302, 522-6723, 517-3060 MOTORPLAZA - Urdaneta - Tel. (075) 568-3312, 568-2502 MOTORPLAZA - Bauang, La Union - Tel. (072) 242-0610, 705-5050 MOTORPLAZA - Baguio City - (074) 443-9780, 300-3571 SFM SALES - Lipa City - Tels. (043) 756-5522 to 25, 756-5194, 756-1018 SFM SALES - San Pablo City - Tels. (049) 562-0600, 562-0691 VISAYAS: AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod - Tels. (034) 435-2111 to 14, 433-0551 AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo City - Tels. (033) 337-6486 335-0746 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU - Tels. (032) 345-1233, 420-5777 MITSUBISHI MOTORS DUMAGUETE - Tel. (035) 225-1420 MITSUBISHI MOTORS TACLOBAN - Tel. (053) 323-3724, MITSUBISHI MOTORS TAGBILARAN - Tel. (038) 411-5815 MINDANAO: MITSUBISHI MOTORS BUTUAN - Tel. (085) 815-3089 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel. (088) 856-1648 / (08822) 732-508 KARASIA - Davao/North - Tels. (082) 222-1111 to 13 KARASIA - Davao/South - Tels. (082) 298-1490 to 93 KARASIA - Tagum - Tel (084) 217-3582 MINDANAO INTEGRATED-Gen. Santos - Tels. (083) 302-0666 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS - Zamboanga City - Tels. (062) 993-0780, 991-2250, 991-2138

US jets bomb Iraq anew

WASHINGTON—US warplanes on Thursday bombed Iraqi air defense targets for the third time this week, and a senior US official warned Baghdad that time was running short to allow UN arms inspectors back into that country.

The official spoke with reporters in Geneva as the top US military officer told a Pentagon briefing in Washington that Baghdad could not take advantage of the US military's focus on Afghanistan.

"At the same time that we are looking at Afghanistan, in the last three days we have reacted as we will any time that we can ascertain where it (Iraqi ground fire) is coming from," said Air Force Gen. Richard Myers.

"We will react to those threats to our patrolling aircraft" over no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq, added the chair of the US military Joint Chiefs of Staff.

UN inspectors

Myers spoke as the senior US official warned in Geneva that time was running short for Iraq to let United Nations inspectors return to check whether Baghdad was developing nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.

The official, who declined to be identified, said there was every indication Iraq had been "aggressively pursuing weapons of mass destruction capability" in the three years since it forced UN inspectors to leave.

"We are coming to a critical point with Iraq," the official told reporters. He said Washington was not prepared to let the situation drag on, although he declined to say what its response might be.

"They (the Iraqis) . . . need to let the weapons inspectors back in. If they do not, there are going to be consequences," the official said.

Biological arms

Iraq admits that it once sought to develop biological weapons but says that it no longer has any such program.

Baghdad was forced to accept the UN inspectors following its defeat by a US-led international force in the 1991 Gulf War, but inspectors had to abandon the country in 1998.

Despite Iraq's denial, the official said Baghdad had used the last three years to press ahead with weapons development.

"They are clearly trying to get back to where they were before the (Gulf) war. I don't think they are there yet but there is a lot of activity," the official said.

'No-fly' zone

The US military's Central Command said at its headquarters in Tampa, Fla., on Thursday that precision-guided bombs were used against an anti-aircraft artillery site in southern Iraq after threats against warplanes patrolling a "no-fly" zone in the south.

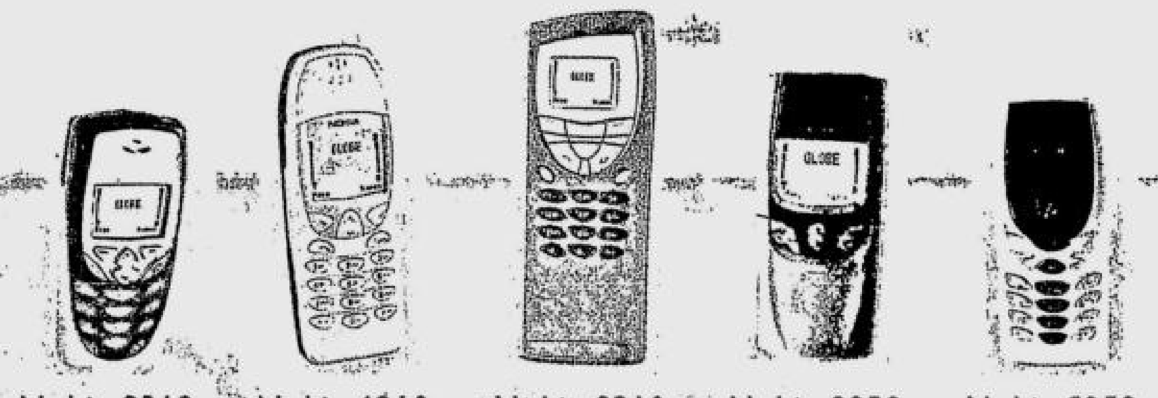
US and British warplanes have patrolled such zones in northern Iraq for a decade since the 1991 Gulf War. They are periodically challenged by anti-aircraft guns and surface-to-air missiles.

Such tit-for-tat attacks have slacked off in recent months, but Myers said that three bombing attacks have occurred this week despite the intense US military focus on the war against terrorism in Afghanistan. ***Reuters***

Globe
HANDYPHONE

TXTCITED to win every hour?

Get a chance to win from 10AM to 4PM daily!



P10,000 P20,000
P50,000 P100,000

And for the Grand Draw, all entries qualify for...

P3Million cash!

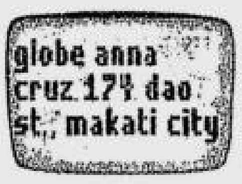
Joining is so TXTcitingly easy!

Every morning, look for the TXTciting word of the day in the Philippine Daily Inquirer and the Philippine Star. We've included a sample word and clue here. You can also get the word and clue sent directly to your cellphone! Just key in TXTCITING to 2255.

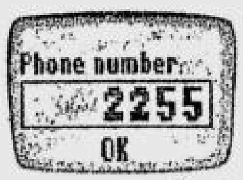
SAMPLE ONLY

TXTciting Word Of The Day
GLOEB
Clue: _ _ _ _ _ Handyphone.

Unscramble the letters, then key in the answer with your name and address. Remember to put a space in between words.


globe anna
cruz 174 dao
st., makati city

Send to 2255.


Phone number
2255
OK

Winners will be drawn from 10:00AM to 4:00PM. Text every hour for a chance to win the prize of the hour! The more you text, the higher your chances of winning! Lucky winners will get an advisory from Globe's official PrizeLine, 0917-897-0077.

Rates for texting in: ₱2.00 Plan subscribers / ₱2.50 Prepaid Plus. See posters and flyers for details.
Grand Draw for ₱3 Million cash is on March 4, 2002.
Promo duration: January 15 to February 28, 2002.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER THE PHILIPPINE STAR myGlobe mobile e-services NO LIMITS

Greenspan: US 'turning the corner'

GREENSPAN

WASHINGTON—Federal Reserve chair Alan Greenspan said Thursday the US economy is finally turning the corner and will pull itself out of recession even without a stimulus package.

"We are just at this particular point turning, as best I can judge," he told members of the Senate budget committee. Instead of declining, US gross domestic product was now close to zero, he said.

The need for a stimulus package, stalled in the Senate, was less obvious than it had been three months ago, the Federal Reserve chief said.

"I do not think it is a critically important issue to do. I think the economy will recover in any event," he said.

Greenspan conceded he had sounded too pessimistic in a speech delivered Jan. 11, in which he had warned of a "significant risk" ahead for the US economy.

"I implied that I did not think the economy was in the process of turning and I tried to rectify that in today's remarks," he told senators.

In fact, he said, the signs were improving.

"There have been signs recently that some of the forces that have been restraining the economy over the past year are starting to diminish and that activity is beginning to firm up," he said.

Nevertheless, financial markets might be disappointed with the pace of recovery, he warned.

"The markets have been assuming a far more rapid snapback than I frankly think is likely to happen, largely because we have not gone down very far," Greenspan said.

Wall Street rallied on the bullish comments. The Dow Jones industrials index rose 65.11 points, or 0.67 percent, to close at 9,796.07.

But the remarks appeared to lower the chances that Federal Reserve policymakers will cut interest rates when they meet Jan. 29-30.

The Federal Open Markets Committee has slashed rates 11 times in the past 13 months, lowering the target for the key federal funds rate to 1.75 percent from 6.50 percent.

But after delivering his verdict on the economy, Greenspan injected a note of caution over the budget.

Even without new spending, the US budget is set to plunge into a deficit of $21 billion in fiscal 2002, which runs to Sept. 30, and $14 billion in fiscal 2003, the Congressional Budget Office said Wednesday.

Just a year ago, it had tipped surpluses well in excess of $300 billion for both years.

The cumulative 2002-2011 surplus forecast was slashed to $1.6 trillion from an earlier projection of $5.6 trillion.

Drinking could ward off dementia

LONDON—Daily, moderate drinking could almost halve the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia, according to new research.

The finding adds to a growing body of evidence for the health benefits of moderate drinking, which is already known to protect against heart disease and stroke.

The study, published this week in The Lancet medical journal, also found that it doesn't seem to matter what people drink—the effect is the same.

Experts say moderation—between one and three drinks a day—is the key.

The adverse effect of excess alcohol is beyond question. Besides destroying the liver, several studies have shown that excessive drinking can be toxic to the brain. Alcoholics can end up with a shrunken brain, which is linked to dementia. There is even a medical condition called alcoholic dementia.

"For people who drink moderately, this is another indication that they are not doing any harm and for those who don't, if they don't simply out of health concerns, they might want to rethink that position," said Meir Stampfer, professor of nutrition and epidemiology at Harvard School of Public Health. He was not involved in the study.

Scientists at Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, conducted a six-year study of 5,395 people aged 55 and over who did not have signs of dementia. *AP*

BEAUTIFUL BUT DEADLY AFP

Thai border policemen and volunteers tear down poppies during the annual "Destroy the Opium Field Day" at Mae Suai district near the Thai-Burma border Jan. 23. The land straddling the border is one of the world's leading sources of opium and amphetamine.

Suicide bomber hurts 10 in downtown Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV—A suicide bomber on a motor scooter blew himself up in downtown Tel Aviv on Friday, wounding about 10 people, police and rescue workers said.

The bomb went off at the old, abandoned central bus station in the middle of the city, a relatively rundown area with small stores that is usually crowded with shoppers on Friday.

Police spokesperson Gil Kleiman said the suicide bomber on the motor scooter was killed.

Tel Aviv police commander Yossi Sedbon told Israel Radio, "a man blew himself up on a motor scooter, and there are some casualties." Rescue service spokesperson Yeruham Mandola said it was a terrorist attack, and emergency workers were treating about 10 people. First reports said one bystander was seriously wounded.

Witness Haim Zacharia, who works in a shop on the street where the blast occurred, told Israel radio: "I saw a huge explosion. The motor scooter and the man flew into the air. Right away I took one of the wounded to the hospital."

Another witness said the motor scooter crashed into a café before exploding.

Police closed off the area and ambulances raced to the scene.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Palestinians waging an uprising against Israeli occupation have carried out a series of suicide bombings and other attacks on Israelis in the past 16 months.

A shooting attack in Jerusalem on Tuesday killed two Israeli women and Israel responded by killing a member of the militant Islamic group Hamas in a missile strike on the Gaza Strip late on Thursday. *AP, Reuters*

AIDS set to surpass Black Death as worst pandemic

LONDON—AIDS will surpass the Black Death as the world's worst pandemic if the 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS do not get life-prolonging drugs, a public health physician said on Friday.

The illness has killed 25 million people since the early 1980s and an estimated 14,000 people are infected each day with HIV, which destroys the immune system.

Without antiretroviral drugs most people living with HIV/AIDS will die, pushing the death toll beyond the 40 million killed by the Black Death that ravaged Asia and Europe in the 14th century.

The Black Death, or bubonic plague, was caused by a bacterium carried by rats. Infection spread through rat flea bites.

"Despite the impressive advances in medicine since then, HIV/AIDS is likely to surpass the Black Death as the worst pandemic ever," said Peter Lamptey, president of the Family Health International AIDS Institute a non-governmental agency based in Arlington, Virginia.

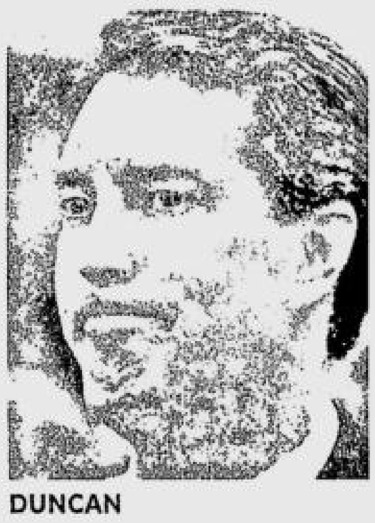
"If we don't improve access to treatment in the next 10-15 years we could have as many as 65 million deaths from this disease," he said in a telephone interview. *Reuters*

MACO®
The furniture store
HOME SALE!
up to 50% OFF
From ₱2,927 up
From ₱864 up
AVAILABLE IN GREEN BEECH VANILLA BLUE SILVER METALLIC
SCHMAL
jahnke
SINA 3+2+1 ₱150,000 ₱127,500
Brilliant
WALL ART LAMP SHADES AND ACCESSORIES
Hurry! Offer good while stocks last.

SHOWROOM 1
Unit 121B, Ground Level, Shangri-La Plaza
Edsa cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Phone: 634-4177 / 634-4172 Fax: 634-4179

SHOWROOM 2
RC-315, Powerplant Mall (next to Power Books)
Rockwell Center, Makati City
Phone: 896-2426 / 896-2427 Fax: 896-2408

Andersen under fire at Enron hearings


DUNCAN

WASHINGTON—Auditing firm Andersen came under heavy fire on Thursday, as a sacked Andersen partner refused to testify in Congress on the shredding of documents related to the Enron collapse, and senior Andersen officials tried to lay blame on their former partner.

And, as a new round of congressional hearings got under way into the energy giant's collapse and Andersen's involvement as its auditor, a senior lawmaker said officials of the Big Five accounting firm were aware early on of Enron's problems.

Top Andersen executives said the destruction of documents being sought by investigators was wrong and largely the fault of David Duncan, a partner who managed the Enron account before he was fired.

Invoking his constitutional right not to incriminate himself, a stony-faced Duncan was quickly dismissed from one of two Capitol Hill hearings, prompting lawmakers to say he was frustrating their probe.

"Enron robbed the bank, Arthur Andersen provided the getaway car and they say you were at the wheel," said Rep. Jim Greenwood, chair of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations.

Andersen fired Duncan earlier this month for what it said was his role in destroying documents related to the Enron audit. Duncan has said, through his lawyer, that he was following instructions from Andersen.

"We certainly have not found out today the answer to the burning question, which was why those documents were destroyed," said Rep. Billy Tauzin, the Republican chair of the full House Energy and Commerce Committee.

The hearings are the first of nine scheduled over the next six weeks into Enron's spectacular decline, going in a matter of weeks from energy trading colossus to the biggest US bankruptcy filing in history.

Ken Lay, who resigned as Enron chair and chief executive officer late on Wednesday, was set to meet with civil rights activist Rev. Jesse Jackson on Thursday night at Enron's Houston headquarters.

A spokesperson for Jackson, Mike Levine, said the meeting was part of a two-day Jackson visit to Houston to drum up support for thousands of laid-off Enron employees who lost their savings in the energy trader's financial collapse.

Earlier on Thursday, Tauzin said evidence would emerge from the subcommittee hearing that would show the level of involvement of top Andersen officials.

"Senior officials and partners in Arthur Andersen were quite aware of the problems of Enron early off and began this process of invoking the so-called retention and destruction policy to clean out files and to alter and delete files from the records," Tauzin told ABC's "Good Morning America" show.

Tauzin said there were at least 80 people under Duncan who were working overtime in an attempt to clean out the files.

After the hearing, Tauzin said the committee had learned documents may have been destroyed outside the Houston office where Andersen housed its Enron audit team. "There were consultants working out of Chicago and others," he said.

In Houston on Thursday, a federal judge ordered six key Andersen employees to give early depositions about the shredding of Enron-related documents. US District Judge Melinda Harmon granted the motion in the massive shareholder lawsuit that requires the preservation of all Enron-related records held by Andersen. *Reuters*

Champions of Excellence

Bearing the Torch of Excellence, Braving New Challenges.

Presenting the awardees of the first CMG Commissioner's Cup

CMG pays tribute to these agents who have exemplified the values of our dedicated and hardworking Insurance Commissioner, Atty. Eduardo T. Malinis. These prized agents topped CMG's three-month nationwide sales drive. Admired not only for their sales achievements, but more importantly, for delivering the kind of service and commitment that our clients deserve. These top performers don't rest on their laurels but continue to strive for excellence. Bearing the true mark of a champion.

To reward their efforts, our top achievers will experience the grandeur of Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. Congratulations to our torchbearers. May they keep the fire of excellence burning.

CMG'S COMMISSIONER'S CUP

TOP SALES ASSOCIATES

John Wu
Long Life Insurance Agency
Binondo

Angelina San
Foundation Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Rosa To Uy
Long Life Insurance Agency
Binondo

Primitiva Guerrero
Cagayan de Oro
Vis-Min

Mary Grace Co
Golden Age Insurance
Services - Binondo

Mariebeth Co
Golden Age Insurance
Services - Binondo

Leonila Medina
FZ Medina &
Associates - Binondo

Nadjie Veluz - Abueg
Pioneer Region
Metro II

Special Awardees

Sales Associate's Category

Chona Pillena
Cebu
Vis - Min

Delinda Alzaga
E. Calla & Associates
Binondo

Lee Kun Wong
Golden Age Insurance
Services - Binondo

Rita Roque
AR Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Errol Natividad
Cagayan de Oro
Vis - Min

Pacita Tan
Milestone Insurance
Services - Binondo

Aurora Viray
Long Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Sonia Santos
Cagayan de Oro
Vis - Min

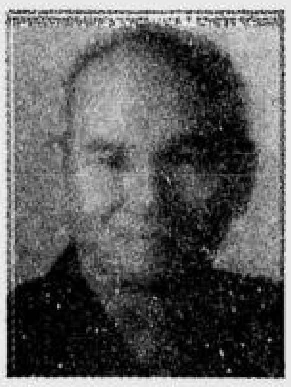
Imelda Samson
Mentors Region
Metro II

Ma. Rosa Pimentel
Davao
Vis - Min

Shirley Landas
Foundation Life
Binondo

Mary Grace delos Reyes
Achievers
Metro II

TOP UNIT MANAGERS


Lim King Uy
Long Life Insurance Agency
Binondo

Bella Co
Milestone Insurance
Services - Binondo

Jerome San
Foundation Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Rafael Artita
Omega Region
Metro I

Nenita Yamuta
Cagayan de Oro
Vis - Min

Aurora Natividad
Cagayan de Oro
Vis - Min

Special Awardees - Unit Manager's Category

Gloria Sonsing
Long Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Anita de Guzman
Achiever's Region
Metro II

Horacio Reyes Jr.
Pioneer Region
Metro II

Shirley de Vera
Lipa - Metro East
South Luzon

Samuel Flores
Omega Region
Metro I

Benigno Alcaraz
Cebu
Vis - Min

Alice Camaganacan
Tagum
Vis - Min

Aida Tan
AR Insurance Agency
Binondo

Juan Bosquit
Davao
Vis - Min

Juanita Angulo
Goalsetters
South Luzon

TOP GENERAL AGENTS

Robert Yu
Long Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Tony Tan
Milestone Insurance
Services - Binondo

Leonel Ramos
Foundation Life Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Mary Co
Golden Age Insurance
Services - Binondo

Special Awardees

General Agent's/ Area Manager's Level

Anselma Artita
Omega Region
Metro I

Myra Diaz
Cagayan de Oro
Vis - Min

Arturo Roque
AR Insurance
Agency - Binondo

Lourdes Lisondra
Millennium Region
Metro I

Gemma Lopez
Grant Insurance Agency
Metro I

TOP SALES DISTRIBUTION HEAD

Nellie Y. Lim
Asst. Vice President and Distribution Head
Binondo Distribution Group

CMG

...of Australia

Plan ahead.
Get ahead.

CMG Life Insurance Co., Inc. · CMG Plans, Inc. · CMG Health Co., Inc.

[illegible]

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St.,Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Tony Bergonia, Assitant Editor

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The Eastern sections of the country will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. source: **pagasa**

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	HI31° Lo 22°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Hi 24° Lo 14°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 18°
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 21°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Hi 29° Lo 19°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 25°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 23°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/01/26/02

ROUNDUP

61 NPAs killed in 2001

LUCENA CITY—The Armed Forces Southern Luzon Command said at least 61 suspected New People's Army guerrillas were killed, 31 were arrested and 96 others surrendered last year. Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, Solcom commander, said they had 98 clashes with the rebels resulting in 14 casualties and 10 wounded on the government side. Recovered from the encounters were 90 high-powered firearms and 38 handguns from the NPA operating in the Southern Tagalog and Bicol regions. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

SM to rise in Lucena

LUCENA CITY—Another SM shopping mall will rise in this city after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Environmental Management Bureau gave its go-signal for the construction of the SM Center Lucena in March. Officials of SM Prime Holdings and DENR announced this during a recent public consultation here. The proposed mall is located at the former Red-V Coconut Products Compound in Barangay Ibabang Dupay, at the city outskirts at the junction going to Dalahican Port and the highway going to the Bicol region. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

2 villagers found dead

LUCENA CITY—Two men were found dead here after a fight. Police identified the victims as Rogelio Dudas, 27, and Ramil Nonida, both residents of Purok Bagong Sinag, Barangay Cotta here. Police found on Sunday the body of Nonida in a grassy area in Barangay Silangang Mayao just outside the poblacion with several hack wounds in different parts of the body. The victim died after reaching the hospital. The next day, police also discovered the body of Dudas, just a few meters from where Nonida's body was found. Dudas also bore several stab wounds in different parts of the body, which caused his immediate death. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Bicolano heads DSWD

LEGAZPI CITY—The Department of Social Welfare and Development has announced the appointment of DSWD Bicol assistant regional director Jim Rebustillo of this city as acting regional director of the DSWD Caraga Region based in Butuan City effective Feb. 1. *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Secure funds, DWPH urged

LUCENA CITY—Quezon Rep. Lynnete Punzalan has urged the Department of Public Works and Highways to immediately scout for funds to finance the P60-million bypass road in Tiaong, Candelaria and Lucena City along the Maharlika Highway. She said the proposed bypass road has been approved by President Macapagal-Arroyo and Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong. Ms Macapagal has asked the DPWH to look for foreign sources of funding. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Fishermen start trading

TAGKAWAYAN, Quezon—Fishermen living in 13 coastal villages here have started a fish trading project to secure a good price for their catch. Fishermen belonging to the Tagkawayan Coastal Fisherfolk Federation have entered into a partnership with the Philippine Business for Social Progress, which gave P400,000 as seed capital for the enterprise. Federation officials hope the venture would bring down excessive prices imposed by private traders. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

ONRA reunion

THE GENERAL reunion of the Our Lady of the Rosary Academy Alumni Association will be held today at the Canossa Academy grounds in Lipa City. An 8 a.m. motorcade will start the day's activities which include a 9 a.m. Mass, games and dancing with two live bands. Class 1957 hosts the reunion.

2 slain in holdup try

BATANGAS CITY—A security guard and a holdup suspect were killed in a foiled holdup at the N. de la Rosa Bus Terminal in Barangay Balagtas, here on Tuesday. Police identified the slain guard as Romeo Marjes, of Guinyangan, Quezon, and working for the Lawin Security Agency. The slain holdup suspect was identified as Gerzon Quindoza, 43, of San Pedro Laguna. Hernandez said Marjes was checking Bus No. 581 when the stickup took place at 1 a.m. Marjes, with the help of another security guard exchanged fire with Quindoza. The two sustained multiple bullet wounds and died on the spot. *Mel Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

2 Davao rivals cast aside differences for Misuari

DAVAO CITY—The case of Moro leader Nur Misuari might prove to be instrumental in bridging the gap between two warring political figures here.

Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and former mayor Benjamin de Guzman have both signified their interest to help Misuari, who is detained at Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, on charges of rebellion.

Earlier, Duterte publicly expressed his willingness to work with anybody in efforts to get an acquittal for the jailed Moro leader.

"I can sit with anybody, if it's work, there's no problem," Duterte said during a pro-Misuari rally here on Monday.

De Guzman was recently hired, along with two other well-known Davao lawyers, to become part of Misuari's panel of lawyers.

De Guzman said he does not see any problem if he works with Duterte.

The two politicians were former allies, but they became bitter enemies during the 2000 elections.

De Guzman lost to Duterte during the mayoral elections here.

The wedge between the two was widened when Duterte pressed charges against De Guzman and other officials over a P300-million land scam in Toril District.

Duterte said he wanted to know if his predecessor and other officials are liable for illegally returning a one-hectare property the city government bought years ago from the heirs of the original owner.

The jailing of Misuari has sparked violence in his home province in Sulu.

The bloodiest clash was between Misuari's supporters and soldiers who held a rally in the capital town of Jolo.

This led to an order to pull out former guerrillas of the Moro National Liberation Front, which Misuari led, from the Sulu police force.

The last batch of 320 MNLF integrees in the Sulu police force left Jolo Tuesday in compliance with an order for them to return to their mother unit at Camp General SK Pendatun in Parang, Maguindanao.

While all the male MNLF integrees have to pack their bags and leave Jolo, their 39 female comrades will have to remain at their posts with the Sulu police office, said Chief Supt. Akmad Omar, police chief in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, who is based in Camp Pendatun.

The MNLF integrees, allegedly involved in the shootout during a recent protest rally in Jolo by Misuari loyalists that killed more than 30 people and followed by the massacre of Marine soldiers at a public market on Jan. 15, were ordered to return to their home base to avoid further violence while an investigation is in progress, Omar said.

"But the pullout does not include their female counterparts," said Omar, who believes that their services "are still needed there."

He said the first batch of 80 MNLF integrees arrived at Camp Pendatun on Sunday as they rejoined the Regional Special Mobile Group, the strike force of the PNP-ARMM.

These former MNLF rebels, Omar said, "are usually used during emergencies. They are the standby force or beef-up force of the PNP-ARMM."

Their withdrawal is expected to improve peace in Sulu, site of bloody skirmishes lately.

Omar declined to comment on the results of the police investigation of the shootout between members of the Armed Forces and the police, saying it might preempt the ongoing probe of the National Bureau of Investigation. ***Anthony Allada and Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

GMA assures Ople of swift justice for son-in-law

NAGA CITY—Sen. Blas Ople yesterday thanked President Macapagal-Arroyo for her message assuring swift justice for the family of his son-in-law, Arthur Meliton San Jose who was found dead on Wednesday from gunshot wounds in his room at the Magayon Hotel in Legazpi City.

Ms Macapagal gave the assurance to Ople in a telephone call where she conveyed her condolences to the senator.

San Jose, 47, a native of Camarines Sur, is married to Ople's daughter and chief of staff in the Senate, lawyer Dalisay Ople San Jose.

A room boy discovered San Jose's body slumped inside the toilet of Room 413 after he failed to respond to calls.

Police recovered from the crime scene two slugs of a 9mm pistol.

Police said San Jose's cell phone was missing but his wallet containing P1,050 and other belongings were intact.

They said San Jose's right hand was tied with an electric wire.

They added that San Jose could have struggled with his assailant because the washbasin in the toilet had been destroyed.

A female hotel employee said San Jose checked in at 8:25 p.m. Tuesday after attending a wedding in Legazpi City.

The employee said the victim, who was identified through his driver's license, was talking to somebody in his cell phone.

She said she heard San Jose tell somebody at the other end of the phone to just follow him at the hotel. She said he also gave the number of the room where he checked in.

The hotel personnel said that in the early morning of Wednesday, three men went up to the hotel at about the same time the crime was committed.

Police have found several shoe tracks stained with blood at the crime scene but the tracks belonged to just one person.

San Jose owned and managed a family resort in San Jose town.

He ran and was defeated in the mayoral race in his town during the 1998 national elections. ***Juan Escandor Jr. and Tony Macasinag, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

HEALERS

Aetas demonstrate their healing practices during the 790th celebration of the Kalibo Sto. Niño Atihan Festival in Aklan. The healing methods of the Aetas came into focus during the festival.

Mayors petition SC on Misuari

STA. CRUZ, Laguna—Twenty-eight mayors in Laguna will petition the Supreme Court to rule on the detention of former ARMM Gov. Nur Misuari in Fort Sto. Domingo here.

Sta. Rosa Mayor Leon Arcillas, said the League of Mayors of Laguna has unanimously agreed to file a motion for reconsideration to the highest court of the land in a meeting held Thursday.

"The stand of the whole province is that it does not want Misuari's continued stay here, much less his trial to be held in our peaceful, progressive, industrial town of Sta. Rosa," said Arcillas who is president of the Mayor's League in the province.

Arcillas also questioned the manner in which Misuari was brought to Fort Sto. Domingo.

"We, who might be exposed to imminent threats by Misuari's followers, were not even consulted," he said.

He said Laguna could also become a target of sabotage and other terrorist activities because of the presence of American and Japanese companies like Ford Philippines, Coca Cola, Panasonic, Isuzu, Toyota and a dozen other multi-national firms.

Laguna Governor Lazaro also expressed strong opposition to Misuari's detention in Sta. Rosa town and said she supports the Mayors' League action. ***Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Palawan settles for less on Malampaya share

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—The Palawan local government will settle for less from the national government's revenue from the Camago-Malampaya Natural Gas-to-Power Project.

This is to prevent a long court battle and allow both parties to benefit from Malampaya's income, according to Palawan Gov. Joel Reyes after a meeting in Manila last Thursday with the Departments of Justice, Finance and Energy.

The government panel was headed by Justice Undersecretary Manuel Teehankee while the Palawan team was composed of Reyes, 1st District Rep. Vicente Sandoval Sr. and Vice Gov. David Ponce de Leon.

Reyes said he stressed that Malampaya is part of the province as it is surrounded by three island-municipalities of Palawan. It had also received royalties from an oil exploration project, which is even farther from where Malampaya is.

Reyes said the national government is firm on its decision to settle the issue amicably.

The national government, he said, agreed to give Palawan a financial assistance package that is not very far from what Palawan is supposed to get legally.

During the provincial board's session on Tuesday, Ponce de Leon said the national and provincial governments will sign an agreement in exchange for the provincial government's softening of stance on its claim over the Malampaya proceeds.

The provincial government has been thinking of bringing the issue to court after Finance Secretary Isidro Camacho announced that Palawan has no legal right over the proceeds.

Minority board member Gerry Ortega believed otherwise. He said the national government is manipulating the province by making a dead-end bargain that leaves the province with no choice but to accept.

"If we agree with the offer and accept to change the 80-20 provision in the Local Government Code, this is in a way circumventing the law," Ortega argued.

He also criticized the offer of financial assistance. ***Jofelle Tesorio, Geraldford Ticke and Ruelle Albert Castro, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Stage set for RP's 1st 2,000-km tour caravan in North

ORGANIZERS of the first North Philippines Caravan dubbed "Explore 2002" said they are ready for the expedition scheduled Feb. 10-15.

At least 600 participants to the expedition will join a convoy that would travel 2,000 kilometers across four regions and log 40 hours on the road to visit tourist destinations in the North.

In a press statement, organizers of the expedition said the project seeks to launch the North as a major tourist and business destination.

Rene Diaz, presidential assistant for Northern Luzon, in the statement was quoted as saying that the pioneering project has the full support of the Macapagal administration.

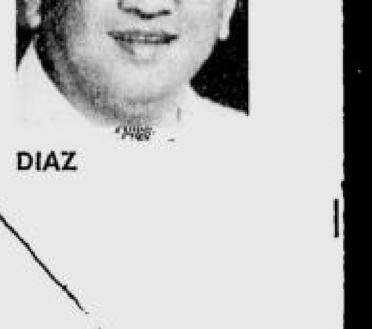
Diaz said the project is part of the administration's efforts to promote domestic tourism in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

"It's a given that after the unfortunate events in the United States last Sept. 11, that many foreign tourists would think twice about travelling abroad," Diaz was quoted as saying.

"We can either wait for the next tourism boom to happen or find and develop viable alternatives for foreign tourists to visit the country now," he added.

On the first day of the caravan, participants would travel to Pampanga, Nueva Vizcaya, Banaue and the Cordilleras. On Day 2, they will hike and kayak at the Magat Dam in Isabela, Camp Viscarra and Peñablanca in Cagayan. On Day 3, they will be on the beaches of Pagudpud and on Day 4, they would visit historic Vigan, Ilocos Sur, La Union and Baguio City.

Day 5 will take the participants to Olongapo and Subic while on Day 6, they will return to Clark from where the caravan started.



DIAZ

Dinagyang fest returns to its roots

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
Iloilo City

THIS YEAR'S Dinagyang Festival, Iloilo's premier tourist attraction, has found its way back into religiosity and the forgotten Ati traditions.

The organizers have tried to shed off the excessive commercialism of the festival and return to the core of the celebration, which is to venerate the Sto. Niño and retrieve the vanishing Ati traditions. Such efforts were evident in the series of activities, criteria for the contests and the general mood of the festival.

The High Mass at the San Jose Church, where the Augustinians brought a replica of the image of Sto. Niño in 1968, signaled the start and end of this year's weeklong Dinagyang Festival, which will culminate in a grand parade this Sunday.

There are also more Masses, novenas and processions for the Sto. Niño this year than in the previous years.

Antique and private collectors have joined the first exhibit of the images of Sto. Niño at the SM City Iloilo to display the many variations of the familiar Cebu Sto. Niño.

Dinagyang has its beginnings in 1968 when a replica of the Sto. Nino de Cebu was brought to Iloilo City by Fr. Sulpicio Enderes, an Augustinian, together with a delegation of the Cofradia de Cebu, an association of lay leaders. The image was enshrined at the San Jose Church and a novena for its honor is held every Friday.

(In Cebu, the Feast of Sto. Niño is celebrated through the weeklong Sinulog Festival that ends with a High Mass and a grand dance parade held every third Sunday of January).

The first feast of Sto. Niño in Iloilo was held a year after. It had a nine-day novena, and fluvial and a foot procession where there would be dancing on the streets to the beat of drums. Organizers call it "Iloilo Ati-Atihan" to differentiate it from a similar festival in Kalibo, Aklan province. Ati-atihan means a mimic of Ati, the indigenous people of Panay.

New name

From 1969, Ati-atihan dances became a regular feature of the feast of the Sto. Niño held every January. In 1976, when it already became one of the top tourist attractions in the country, the church lost it to the city government. The local Cofradia said it could no longer cope with the demands of the affair.

With the new management came the search for a new name. Instead of Iloilo Ati-Atihan, it became Dinagyang, Hiligaynon for frolic or merrymaking. The term was coined by the late broadcaster Pacifico Sudario in 1977.

By then the festival became more ornate, fabulous and pompous. Foreign and local tourists come to Iloilo in droves to witness the festival every year. The main attractions are the tribes of soot-blackened dancers executing choreographed movements to the thundering beat of drums.

The so-called Ati warriors are dressed in colorful costumes, often with headdresses, spears, shields and knee breeches, more African than Ati-inspired. During performances the Sto. Niño is raised overhead with shouts of "Viva" but it was to signal the end of the performance, more like an afterthought than a gesture of veneration.

The move to return to the core of vanishing Ati traditions came from the Bola-bola tribe of the Iloilo National High School through the efforts of its principal Dr. Riza Amaguin, Ph.D.

Amaguin researched on Ati culture, which became the basis for the movements and theme of the Bola-bola tribe that has emerged as the reigning grand champion since 1996.

Amaguin noticed that the costumes and movements of the groups who have joined the Dinagyang did not depict the indigenous Ati. Some tribes were dressed like Roman centurions, with swords, enormous shields and knee-high sandals to boot. On the other hand, Ati hunters only used simple implements like stones, clubs and thin bamboo spears to hunt. They also carry whiplashes to scare wild animals and mosquitoes in the mountains.

Stylized but authentic

Nilda Lopez, the Bola-bola's tribe manager, said that much goes into choreographing every movement and the drum beat of the Bola-bola tribe. "While the movements of the dancers are stylized, they are authentic," said Lopez who managed the tribe since 1992.

The Bola-bola's yearly entry into the Dinagyang Festival has elevated the standards of the festival in terms of choreography, costumes and music. It has also inspired other schools and groups into retrieving the movements of Ati and other indigenous groups in Panay.

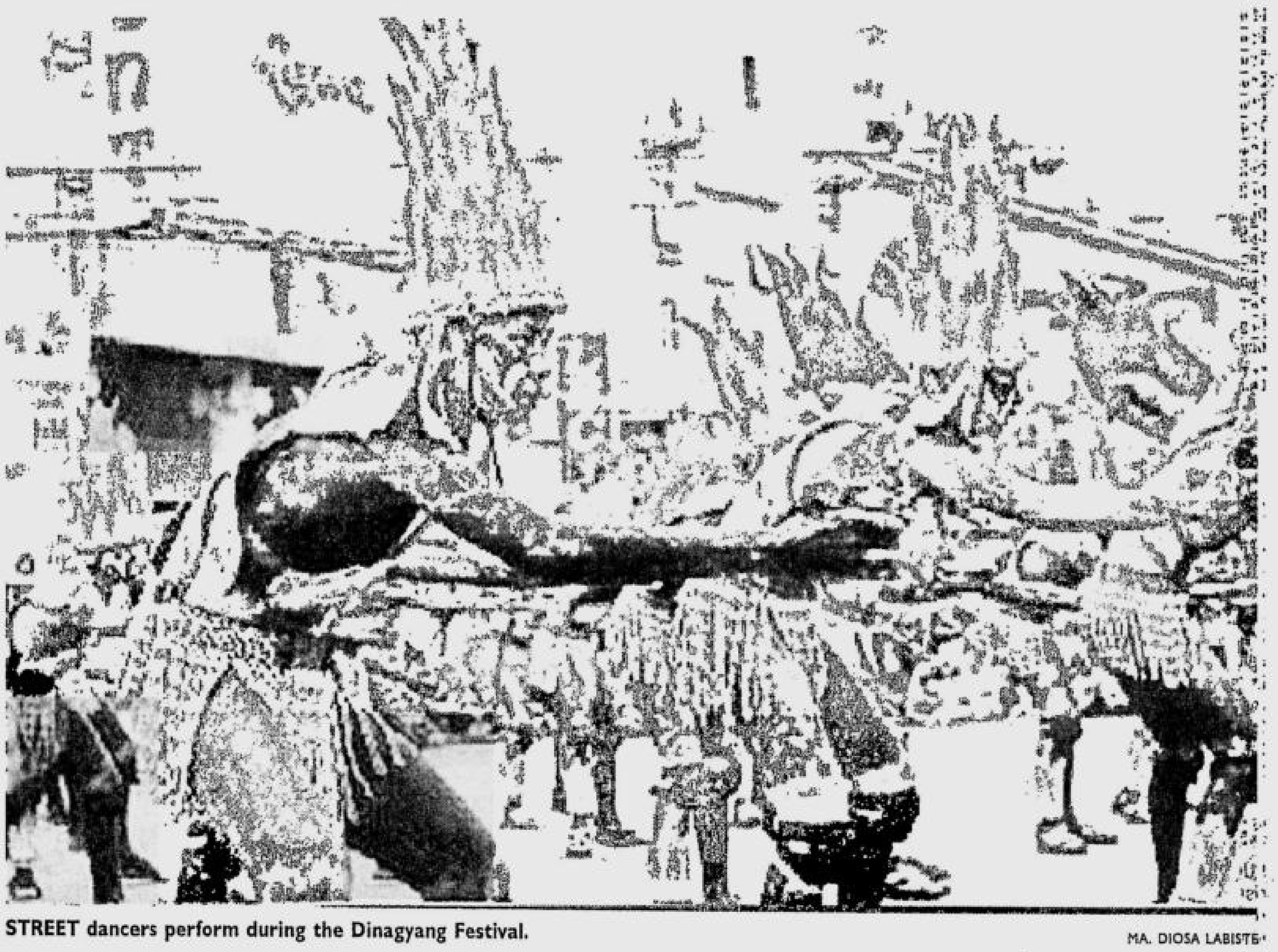
For example, Bola-bola dancers dared to wear loincloth when other performers settled with decorated skirts. Delving into the neglected folklore of the Ati, Bola-bola brought to the center stage the colorful pagan rituals which Christianity, symbolized by the Sto. Niño, later obliterated.

Amaguin's advocacy is now integrated in the judging criteria of this year's Dinagyang's contest. The contest requires that the "presentation be free interpretation but Ati-based."

There are also other changes in this year's Dinagyang, which signal a step closer to its beginnings.

The city government gave the management of the festival to the Dinagyang Foundation, which is composed of private citizens. In the past few years, questions of how the funds were spent hounded the city government, especially the elected officials who chaired the committees.

The San Jose Church would be happier with this year's festival. In the judging criteria, the performers are required to integrate into their choreography the Sto. Niño in its "Church-prescribed form" as the centerpiece of the presentation.



STREET dancers perform during the Dinagyang Festival.

MA. DIOSA LABISTE

GRAND FEATURES.GRAND PERFORMANCE.
GRAND VITARA

GRAND VITARA

Power mode selector switch
Located to the left of the gear selector, this switch allows the driver to shift in either the "P" or the "N" mode. In the "P" mode, the transmission will delay its shift points. This allows the vehicle to rev higher, and downshift quicker when the accelerator is depressed. Under "N", the transmission will shift at the regular shift points, usually about 3,000 rpm, depending on the model. This setting maximizes fuel economy.

Micron air filter
Filters out dust, dirt, and pollen from the ventilation system, helping keep the cabin air fresh.

Direct Ignition system
The Suzuki 2.5 liter V6, 2.0 liter 4-cylinder engines feature coil over plug technology, which reduces maintenace costs by eliminating the need for a distributor cap and ignition wines. Direct ignition helps increase engine efficiency and performance.

Strut tower brace
A thick steel bar over the engine acts as a body stiffener by increasing torsional rigidity and reducing body flex.

Shift-on-the fly four-wheel Drive
A shift-on-the-fly system with two speed transfer case allows drivers to shift between 2wd high and 4wd high at any speed up to 60 mph while travelling in a straight line. There is no need to stop, reverse, or lock hubs.

Multi-reflector headlamps
Besides being visually appealing, these headlamps produce a cleaner, more controlled beam for better night vision.

Liquid filled motor mounts
Hydraulically tuned to help cancel the noise and vibrations produced by the engine, these motor mounts help ensure a quieter cabin.

Chassis to body mounts.
Numerous energy absorbing rubber chassis to body mounts are placed on top of the ladder box frame, and below the body. They help keep road noise and vibration out of the passenger cabin, ensuring a quiet, smooth ride.

Full frame with crumple zones
The full ladder frame with boxed rails is made of high tensile steel, and features seven cross-members for additional support and rigidity. This gives the entire Vitara line a strong foundation for vehicle.

Two-speed tranfer case
Allows the driver to select 4wd low, used for serious off road driving, such as ascending or descending steep hills, sand, or mud.

Timing chain
The Suzuki 2.5 liter V6, 2.0 liter 4-cylinder engines are designed with dual overhead cams and a two-stage timing chain for better performance. The timing chain, developed from Suzuki motorcycle technology, is self lubricating, self adjusting, and requires no maintenance.

LIGHT WAYS TO OWN THE GRAND VITARA

LOW MONTHLY INSTALLMENT PLAN

MODEL	SRP	D/P	%	NMI - 72 MOS.
GRAND V. 2.0 M/T	1,135,000	567,500	50	12,532
GRAND V. 2.0 A/T	1,175,000	587,500	50	13,016
GRAND V. 2.5 M/T	1,280,000	640,000	50	14,406
GRAND V. 2.5 A/T	1,330,000	665,000	50	15,010
VITARA Std. M/T	760,000	380,000	50	8,595
VITARA Std. A/T	805,000	402,500	50	9,139
VITARA Plus M/T	797,500	398,750	50	9,048
VITARA Plus A/T	842,500	421,250	50	9,593

FINANCING PACKAGE SUBJECT TO BANK APPROVAL
EASY FINANCING PACKAGE ALSO AVAILABLE ON VITARA 1.6 MODELS
PLEASE CALL SUZUKI DEALERS FOR MORE INFORMATION
AVAILABLE THROUGH BPI BANK FINANCING PLANS
RATES FOR OTHER BANKS MAY VARY.

LOW DOWNPAYMENT PLAN

MODEL	SRP	NET D/P	NMI - 72 MOS.
GRAND V. 2.0 M/T	1,135,000	207,000	21,249
GRAND V. 2.0 A/T	1,175,000	215,000	22,023
GRAND V. 2.5 M/T	1,280,000	236,000	24,174
GRAND V. 2.5 A/T	1,330,000	246,000	25,142
VITARA Std. M/T	760,000	142,000	14,350
VITARA Std. A/T	805,000	151,000	15,221
VITARA Plus M/T	797,500	149,500	15,076
VITARA Plus A/T	842,500	167,500	15,947

DISCOUNTS FOR CASH BUYERS UP TO P50,000.00
PLUS FREE FOG LAMPS, WINDOW VISORS AND MUFFLER EXTENSION ON GRAND VITARA MODELS
PROMO GOOD UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2002

THE REAL 4X4 SUV
GRAND VITARA

FULL FRAME 4.4

SUZUKI

Metro Manila

PILHINO SALES CORP.
Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 634-3451 to 57

PILIPINAS TRANSPORT INDUSTRIES, INC. - LAS PINAS
Las Pinas City
Tel. Nos 871-3876 / 80 / 94

GM AUTOWORLD -Makati -
Makati City
Tel. Nos. 843-0217 to 20 / 814-0803 / 814-0838

GM AUTOWORLD -Quezon Avenue
Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 374-1250 to 59 / 382-8001

GM AUTOWORLD -Shaw
Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 535-4938 / 533-1263

Luzon

AMIANAN MOTORS
Rosario, La Union
Tel. Nos. (072) 712-8881 to 84

Baguio City
Tel Nos. (074) 300-8882 to 83

San Fernando
Tel. Nos. (072)700-8882 to 83

Laoag
Tel. Nos. (077) 781-8882 to 83

Dagupan
Tel Nos. (075) 515-8882 / 8888

SUNNY MOTOR SALES, INC.
Cabanatuan City
Tel. (044) 600-1657

CHEERS TRADESTAR, INC.
Santiago City
Tel Nos (078) 682-7451 / (078) 682-8143 / (078) 682-8080

FAMILY CARS, INC.
City of San Fernando
Tel. Nos. (045) 9613037, 8605071

LIBAM MOTORS
Naga City
Tel Nos. (054) 472-3577 / (054) 472-6950

Visayas

AFE MOTOR SALES CORP.
Tacloban City
Tel Nos. (053) 321-2498 / (053) 325-5809

AUTOMALL MOTORS SALES
Bacolod City
Tel. Nos. (034) 435-1102 / (034) 435-1308

METRO ILOILO AUTO CENTER, INC.
Brgy. Tagbac, Jaro, Iloilo City
Tel. Nos. (033) 329-2888, 3204630

SAIKOH MOTOR SALES, INC.
Mandaue City
Tel Nos (032) 346-3602 to 06 / (032) 346-3110 / (032) 344-0902

Mindanao

ANFLO MOTOR CORP.
Cagayan de Oro City
Tel. No (088) 227-26357

ARCEF MARKETING, INC.
ZAMBOANGA CITY
TEL. NOS. (062) 991-1492 / (062) 991-1126

MOTORMALL DAVAO CORP.
Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 235-0165 / (082) 234-0390

PER DTI-NCR Permit No. 0202 Series of 2002

Key witness in tax scam now in hiding

From page A1

But Desierto said, "the witness executed a statement on record, and so a panel of investigators applied the Supreme Court decision in Toralba vs Sandiganbayan which requires full disclosure to the respondents of everything in the case records."

Desierto also said, "strict adherence to the case law is not something to complain about. If the witness is harassed, then he can avail himself of the witness protection program."

He added, "If we did not disclose the witnesses, we cannot use them in the case because of the Supreme Court ruling."

In his privileged speech, Moreno said it was no longer certain "if the said vital witness will still testify considering her premature exposure, which has placed her life at risk."

Task Force sources told the INQUIRER yesterday that the witness had reportedly received death threats and was no longer available or cooperative.

The witness had told investigators that Faustino and Gloria Chingkoe, owners of the Chingkoe companies implicated in the "illegal and fraudulent transaction" of tax credit certificates (TCCs) worth some P2.5 billion, had paid her a sum of money to convince a cousin of hers who worked in the Tax Credit Center to steal documents related to the irregularities. The cousin, Dina Malibat, allegedly managed to steal a total of 48 dockets, and was one of five Department of Finance officials and employees served a subpoena on Jan. 15, 2002.

Stolen files

Unaccountably, however, the Chingkoe spouses, who had allegedly paid for the stolen files, were not named respondents in the preliminary investigation.

But an examination of the paper trail shows that even Desierto saw the need to keep the witness' identity under wraps in the beginning. When the witness was identified in an evaluation report by Assistant Ombudsman Edward Pagunsan dated Aug. 28, 2000 as one of two "possible state witnesses," Desierto wrote on the margin of the report: "Maintain secrecy to avoid preemption. Get the affidavits of the two witnesses immediately even if we assure them immunity." The Ombudsman's note was dated Oct. 5, 2000.

An unsigned, undated note handwritten on the Ombudsman's stationery described the value and the limitations of the witness' testimony. "This informant revealed that the spouses Faustino and Gloria Chingkoe retained her services to facilitate the stealing of documents (at the One Stop Shop) pertaining to TCCs issued illegally to the companies owned/controlled by the said spouses."

Not sufficient

A later comment read: "The revelation made by (the witness) is a good lead to strengthen the tax credit scam cases. However, it is not sufficient to indict the Chingkoe spouses (by itself)."

Sufficient or not, in the fact-finding report dated Sept. 5, 2001 and filed by graft investigator Elena Barcenal, both the testimony of the witness and her identity were specified.

The report itself, however, described the provenance of the witness' testimony as an "unsigned and undated affidavit"—not to mention un-notarized, effectively raising basic questions about the probative value of the testimony. The fact-finding report does not identify any other source who can prove that Malibat stole the documents, or that she did so on orders of the Chingkoe couple, who allegedly sought to mount a cover-up.

The same report lists a total of 17 witnesses the Office of the Ombudsman will rely on to prosecute the case—but the vital witness was not included in the list. In other words, the fact-finding report named her as a source of vital information, then limited the value of her information by relying on an incomplete affidavit (it even had blanks that needed filling), and then finally excluded her from the list of witnesses.

In the Senate, an opposition senator said reports that Desierto had a hand in whitewashing the tax credit scam were reportedly clouding the government's campaign to stamp out graft and corruption.

Credibility eroded

"These fresh charges of impropriety against Desierto, in addition to a pending impeachment case lodged against him in the House of Representatives, is fast eroding the credibility of the Ombudsman," Sen. Blas Ople said in press conference.

The Ombudsman is the lead prosecutor in the plunder case filed by the administration against Estrada.

"After this, can Desierto now enter the courtroom against Estrada and prosecute him without feeling that he himself is being suspected of something?" Ople asked.

One of the prosecutors in the Estrada plunder trial also expressed concern over Moreno's allegation against Desierto.

"We are concerned because he is the chief prosecutor in the Estrada case, and we hope things will be clarified soonest so there can be peace of mind among the prosecutors," Dennis Villa-Ignacio said in a phone interview.

Villa-Ignacio said the timing of the charges hurled at Desierto by Moreno was "unfortunate especially now that we are making headway in the case." ***With reports from Cynthia D. Balana and Volt Contreras***

Bush scolds . . .

From page A1

foreign policy nominees yet to be confirmed, Fleischer said, adding:

"The pace of this Senate is, by far, way behind the pace of previous Senates."

US state department spokesperson Richard Boucher said it would be helpful to have the new ambassador in place as US troops pour into the Philippines to train Filipino soldiers for their campaign against the Abu Sayyaf.

The US government has linked the Abu Sayyaf to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

"We would certainly like to see all our nominees confirmed, but the situation in the Philippines right now demonstrates why it's important to have nominees confirmed, particularly one for such an important spot," said Boucher.

The US troops are flying to the Philippines to take part in the joint military exercise "Balikatan 02-1."

Three more joint military exercises, including another Balikatan, are scheduled this year, the Philippine military said yesterday in Manila.

Asked whether the second Balikatan would, like the first, use Filipino "terrorists" as "live targets," military spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan said he did not have details.

Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio, the Filipino commander handling "Balikatan 02-1," told reporters that the second such exercise would be held midyear in Luzon.

Adan said the number of US troops participating in the second Balikatan would depend on the activities to be conducted.

He made the remarks amid reports that about 2,000 US soldiers were expected to arrive for the second joint military exercise.

Teodosio said 160 members of the US Special Forces would be deployed in Basilan "sometime in the second week of February."

The 160 are part of the 660 US troops participating in "Balikatan 02-1."

Impeachment

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) yesterday urged opposition legislators to file impeachment charges against President Macapagal-Arroyo for allowing US troops to operate on Philippine soil.

Saying that the President had violated the 1987 Constitution, the KMP cited:

- Article 2, Section 2 stating: "The Philippines renounces war as an instrument of national policy."
- Article 2, Section 7 stating: "The state shall pursue an independent foreign policy. In its relation with other states the paramount consideration shall be national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national interest and right to self-determination."
- Article 2, Section 11 stating: "The President may be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of culpable violation of the Constitution, treason, bribery, graft and corruption, other high crimes or betrayal of public trust."

"We challenge genuine freedom-loving opposition leaders to file an impeachment complaint against the puppet President," said KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos. "We are more than willing to be one of the signatories of an impeachment complaint."

The KMP also warned that its 66 provincial and regional chapters were prepared to join nationwide mass actions calling for the immediate pullout of US troops in the country and protesting US intervention and Ms Macapagal's "puppetry."

Teodoro Casiño, secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), also reiterated its call for the immediate pullout of US forces.

Casiño also took potshots at the President's vaunted high IQ, saying it was "a pro-Imperialist Quotient" and "a pro-Intervention Quotient."

"That only makes her the puppet chieftain of Asia's banana republic," he said. "The Iron Lady, hardheaded as she is, seems unmindful of the growing opposition to US military intervention in the country. This can very well be her biggest mistake."

Street protests

In Cebu, Bayan and its allied group Gabriela yesterday kicked off a series of demonstrations to protest the arrival of US troops.

They held a protest-caravan from Fuente Osmeña going to the Mactan Benito Ebuen air base.

Vids Arcamo, secretary general of Gabriela-Cebu, said they would not stop their protest actions until the government had reversed its earlier decision granting entry to the US troops.

Capt. Enrico Canaya, spokesperson of the Tactical Operations Command of the Philippine Air Force (PAF), said another 12 US soldiers arrived at the air base around 10 a.m. on board a C17 Globe Muster 111 from Guam.

The plane returned to Guam immediately after refueling.

Canaya said the latest batch of US soldiers were part of the 250 assigned to serve as support group of the troops in Zamboanga City and Basilan.

He said the number of US soldiers in Cebu had reached 32. They are temporarily staying in a hotel in Lapulapu City.

In Manila, some 50 Gabriela members tried to storm the US Embassy.

"Our concern is the number of children and women who will be subjected to abuse and violence. It has come to our attention that prostituted women from as far as Manila have started to flock to Zamboanga," said Emmi de Jesus, Gabriela deputy secretary general.

She added: "With the entry of more than 600 US soldiers, Zamboanga may become the next Angeles or Olongapo."

De Jesus was referring to the Luzon cities that hosted US bases in the past and had notorious red-light districts catering mostly to US servicemen.

'Go home!'

In Davao City, Bayan members yelled: "Yankees, go home!"

Alvin Luque, secretary general of Bayan-Davao, said love had never been sweet between the Philippines and the United States since America started dipping its hands into the country's affairs.

He cited the possibility of external attacks because of the renewed presence of US troops here.

The First Quarter Storm-Southern Mindanao Region (FQS-SMR) said the US-led global campaign against terrorism promised to be a bloody war of aggression and intervention at a time of unrivalled US supremacy.

FQS-SMR said the likely prospect of the use of weapons of mass destruction would doubtless take the heaviest toll on civilians and noncombatants.

In Zamboanga City, militant groups said they would also hold rallies against the presence of US troops in Mindanao.

Salaam Peace Foundation secretary general Ustadz Datu Amilusin Jumaani said the deployment of US troops in Basilan against the Abu Sayyaf could be likened to "a big dinosaur trying to crush a mosquito." ***Reports from AFP; Martin P. Marfil, Gerald G. Lacuarta, and Philip C. Tubeza in Manila; Jhunex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau; Julie S. Alipala and Ayan C. Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

US ARMY Col. William Ball, deputy commander of Joint Task Force 510, pays a courtesy call on Southcom chief Roy Cimatu in his headquarters in Zamboanga City.

DENNIS SABANGAN

Charter allows US troops to even fight Abus—Gloria

From page A1

Forces Agreement (VFA) outlines the legal status of US soldiers taking part in joint war games here.

At the same forum, Ms Macapagal for the first time acknowledged her rift with Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. over the US military presence in Basilan.

She said she had tried to allay Guingona's fears that the Americans would take part in the actual fighting, and had asked him not to contradict her in public.

"I do not want Guingona to air his reservations publicly," she said. "We already know he has reservations. It's not good to stress that because we belong to one team. It's all right for us to disagree as long as we disagree among ourselves and not in public."

But the Vice President told reporters that he would not keep his peace.

"*Hindi naman ako mananahimik* (I will not be silent)," he said. "I'll still look (out for) the interest of the nation. I did not sacrifice and will not compromise my principles."

The President said Guingona had questioned why US troops should go to Basilan, the "combat zone," when they could train Filipino soldiers in Zamboanga City.

She pointed out that certain legislators agreed that the Americans should be in Basilan "to make the (joint military) exercise worthwhile."

But Guingona expressed the belief that the Armed Forces of the Philippines could crush the local terrorist problem, particularly the threat posed by the Abu Sayyaf, without the US troops.

"I am for resolving the Abu Sayyaf problem," he pointed out. "I have full faith in the military. I raised significant alternative rules of reference, and I have suggested ways to ensure the safety of civilians. These are now up to the NSC (National Security Council) to decide."

Guingona was apparently referring to the "sensitive proposals" that he submitted to the NSC after he objected to the stay of 660 US soldiers beyond the prescribed "short visits not lasting more than four weeks."

On Wednesday at the NSC meeting, Ms Macapagal and her legal advisers invoked the VFA and the "doctrine" that the President is the "chief architect of foreign policy" to justify the deployment of US troops in Basilan.

The Department of Justice said the President could bypass the Vice President, who normally signs the approval papers for all joint military exercises.

Very specific

Ms Macapagal said that to appease Guingona's fears, the terms of reference between the Philippine and US military would be "very specific"—that the Americans would not take part in combat and would remain at the tactical command post.

"So while I tell him that he cannot contradict me in public, in private I listen to what he has to say," she said. "And I have adjusted the terms of reference according to his observations."

Guingona, however, said he had not wavered in his position that the extended stay here of US troops would be "unconstitutional."

"I'd like to state that I have not compromised my principles," he stressed. "I haven't signed anything contrary to my belief."

He said he did not show up at the Senate hearing Thursday on the issue because he had nothing new to say. "I already said my piece before the discussions with the NSC, and the issue has been resolved," he said.

Guingona said he was maintaining the position that he took before, during and after the NSC meeting, and vowed to reject any attempt to make him approve any plan contrary to his stance.

He also said he would not resign.

The President said she was aware of the "political risk" she was taking.

"Before making the decision to uphold the Balikatan exercise, I was very much aware that it will be an issue that will be used against me, and that it entails some political risk," she said. "I decided, however, to take the risk for the good of the country so the scourge of the Abu Sayyaf and other terrorists will be ended."

Wading into the fray, Education Secretary Raul Roco aired the opinion that the nation must stand behind the President in her decision to allow the conduct of the Balikatan.

"In the matter of war and peace, the nation must be united," Roco said in a statement. "We must follow the constitutional process and the judgment of the Chief Executive, who is mandated by law to implement international agreements."

Roco, however, added that "the people must always be vigilant."

Aboveboard

Sen. Blas Ople said Malacañang would submit to the Senate the terms of reference for the Balikatan exercise, including the rules of engagement, to make sure that all actions by the participating US and Philippine troops would be aboveboard.

Ople said the two Senate committees looking into the US military presence in the country wanted to examine the set of guidelines being worked out by a Cabinet panel appointed by the President. The committees on foreign relations (chaired by Ople) and on defense and national security (chaired by Sen. Ramon Magsaysay) are conducting an inquiry on the legality and nature of the joint military exercise scheduled to start next month.

The terms of reference are due for completion this weekend, Ople said.

The senator said the chamber would compel the Vice President to attend the next hearing scheduled on Thursday because the "highly regarded patriot and elder statesman" should not be deprived of the opportunity to make a contribution to the inquiry.

Ople also called on the President to make public any draft of the proposed RP-US Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA).

He said apprehensions and suspicions continued to be aired by various sectors on the supposed existence of an already signed MLSA.

These, he said, were not healthy for the country's stability and image abroad.

"I urge the President to make such a document, whether drafted by her administration or authored by the US, public now so that the people can debate fully on its provisions," Ople said.

He reminded the President of her promise to be transparent in her dealings with the Americans.

But at the Makati Business Club forum, Ms Macapagal refused to say whether she would submit the MLSA to a Senate review.

"I don't even know if it would be approved. To begin with, there is no agreement, so there's nothing to review," she said, adding that the agreement was still with the technical working group.

At the Senate hearing Thursday, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez denied the existence of a draft MLSA, saying that the US and Philippine panels were still working on it.

But earlier this week, Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos said the agreement had already been signed. ***With reports from Cynthia D. Balana and Donna S. Cueto***

Gloria keeps hands off . . .

From page A1

Sandiganbayan," the President added.

Under Executive Order No. 38 that Ms Macapagal signed on Oct. 6, 2001, the task force was mandated to investigate the tax credit scam involving the Chingkoe Group of Companies, officials of Petron Corp. and Pilipinas Shell and former officials of the task force.

The task force found that the 12 companies owned by Faustino and Gloria Chingkoe were responsible for defrauding the government P2.5 billion by using fraudulent TCCs, or half of the P5.3 billion in fraudulent TCCs.

The task force charged the Chingkoe spouses last month with plunder, but the couple had already left the country for Canada.

Tax credits are refund payments made by the government on the duties and taxes paid by export enterprises for imported materials that they use. Instead of cash, the One Stop Shop Credit and Duty Drawback Center issues tax credit certificates (TCCs) which the companies can use to settle their tax obligations.

An export enterprise can use tax credits to pay its own taxes or transfer these to BOI-registered companies in exchange goods, services on cash.

The One Stop Shop was an interagency group composed of the Department of Finance, the Bureaus of Internal Revenue, Customs and the Board of Investments (BOI).

In a privileged speech on Wednesday, Moreno said Desierto filed a flawed consolidated plunder case involving all 12 Chingkoe companies instead of 12 separate plunder cases.

Moreno said the consolidated plunder case was "destined for dismissal by design."

Breaking its silence after Moreno's privileged speech, the task force yesterday said that it had an informal agreement with the Office of the Ombudsman not to consolidate the plunder cases against the Chingkoe group.

"In our discussions, although it was not a formal agreement, we agreed that we don't want a shotgun approach," said Finance Undersecretary Cornelio Gison, head of the task force.

"We want to select the stronger cases and file these separately so that it would result in a successful prosecution," Gison said.

Second plunder case

He said the task force was preparing to file its second plunder case against the Chingkoe group with the Office of the Ombudsman next month.

A member of the task force revealed that the government would file a case against Philstar Corp., another textile firm of the Chingkoes that allegedly acquired P339 million in TCCs.

Philstar was found by the task force to be a shell company. It was not engaged in exporting textiles and should not have been entitled to TCCs.

Most of the TCCs were sold to Petron and to Pilipinas Shell, two of the country's largest oil refiners, according to the task force.

Other respondents

On Dec. 13, the task force filed a plunder case against Diamond Knitting Corp. of the Chingkoes. Also named respondents were former Finance Undersecretary Antonio Belicena, One Stop Shop executive director Uldarico Andutan Jr., and Rowena Malonso of the One Stop Shop.

Diamond Knitting allegedly acquired P133 million worth of tax credits when it had ceased operating.

Of the P133 million, P89 million was transferred to Petron and the rest to Shell.

"We have testimonies to prove that Philstar was not selling any product, much more engaged in exports. It should not have been entitled to TCCs," a task force official said.

Of the P2.5 billion credits obtained by the Chingkoes, P1.2 billion was reportedly transferred to Petron and Shell.

Petron, Shell still liable

While Shell official Pacifico Cruz and Petron vice president Celso Legarda were named respondents to a criminal case before the Ombudsman, the task force said the two companies were liable for civil liabilities.

"They are liable for civil charges because the tax credits were based on a fraudulent transaction," Gison said. Shell, which used a portion of the credits to pay taxes, should pay the government the equivalent amount in cash, according to the task force chief.

Gison explained that Shell and Petron were liable because they were not qualified to buy the tax certificates because they did not sell oil products to the Chingkoe companies.

He noted that Diamond Knitting was already closed when the oil firms bought the credit certificates.

Afterthought

On the Jan. 11 order that Desierto reportedly issued showing that they were going after the Chingkoes and oil firm executives, Moreno expressed belief that the order was "spurious and an afterthought."

Moreno said that if there was another case filed as Desierto had asserted then this would be "worst" because he had broken down the plunder case into two separate cases.

Moreno said Desierto's claim that he issued the order was "a futile attempt to wiggle himself out from an inexplicable situation."

"*Huli na, eh huli pa* (The order came too late and he was caught coming up with the late order)," Moreno said.

On Desierto's calling him a congenital liar, Moreno reminded that the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos had once called the late Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. the same.

Moreno said he was honored to be in the late senator's company.

He asked Desierto to answer the following questions:

- Is it true that the Ombudsman agreed with the task force to file 12 separate plunder cases against the Chingkoe Group of Companies;
- Is it true that the task force filed on Dec. 13 last year the first of 12 plunder cases against the Chingkoes; and
- Is it true that the fact finding investigative bureau filed a complaint on Oct. 17 last year for the consolidated plunder case against the Chingkoes.

Settlement

Faustino Chingkoe approached the Estrada administration in 2000 to offer a settlement of his case.

But in the end, no settlement was reached between Chingkoe and the Estrada administration, said San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora, then Estrada's executive secretary and chair of the task force. The task force was established in October 1999 by the Estrada administration to investigate the scam.

Zamora told the INQUIRER that lawyers and representatives of Chingkoe had approached then tax credit center executive director Alberto Salanga to propose a settlement of Chingkoe's involvement in the scam by "restituting" government with about P520 million.

The task force then was in the stage of documenting evidence against those behind the scam.

But Zamora said the government required Chingkoe to compensate the lost government revenues and to disclose the modus operandi of the scam and the beneficiaries.

The former executive secretary said they also wanted Chingkoe to help in the prosecution of the case.

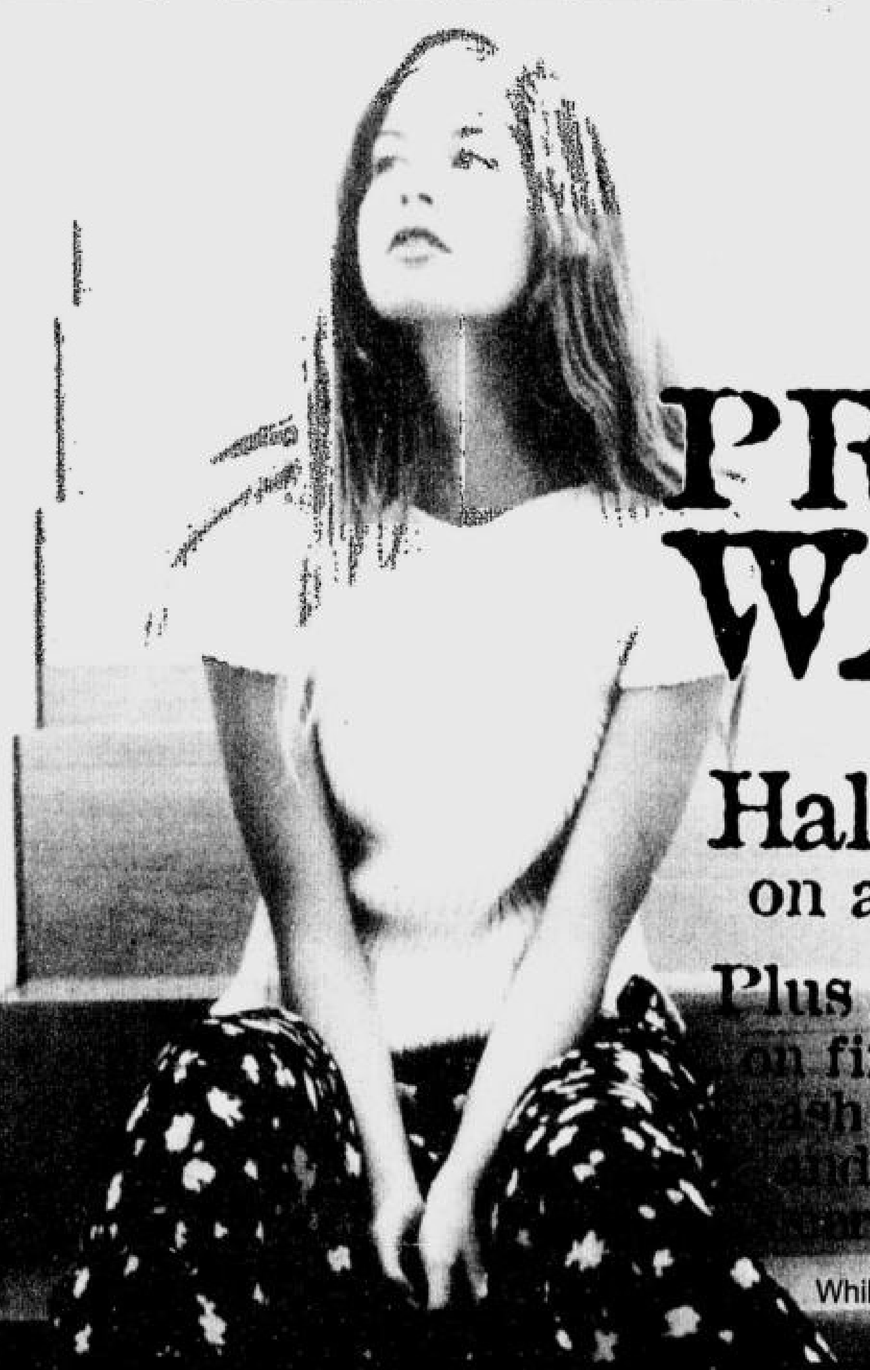
But Zamora said that "after a couple of months, it was made clear (to them by Chingkoe's lawyers) that Chingkoe could not meet (government's) requirements."

Zamora said that they also felt the Chingkoe representatives were trying to hide or protect some people.

At one point, Zamora said Chingkoe's lawyers even told the task force that the businessman could not pay in cash the amount they had offered as restitution. They instead offered the shares of stocks of the firms he owned.

But a "clear valuation" of the companies showed that the stocks could not meet one-third of the amount of restitution that was proposed, according to Zamora.

The task force rejected the proposal.



PRICE WAR!
Half price on all items.
Plus 20% OFF on final bill for cash purchases and LIG gift certificates.
While supplies last.

LINEA ITALIA GROUP

LINEA ITALIA 6750
Ayala Avenue 752-7679 / 812-9166

LINEA ITALIA
SM Megamall 635-5695
Alabang Town Center 842-4749
Ayala Center, Cebu (032) 231-5518

LINEA UOMO
Park Square I 815-1227
SM Megamall 633-2071
Alabang Town Center 807-2296
SM Cebu (032) 232-1499

PRIMA LINEA
Greenbelt Mall 819-59-17
SM Megamall 633-2070/72
Ayala Center, Cebu (032) 231-5517

UOMO TU
Greenbelt Mall 812-8524
Ayala Center, Cebu (032) 231-5370

VERSACE JEANS COUTURE
Greenbelt Mall 817-5437

VIVA
SM Megamall 633-2068
SM Cebu (032) 232-1443

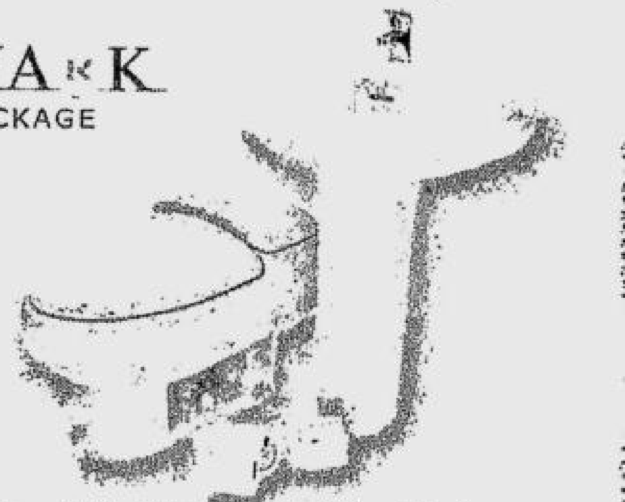
MARCONI FASHION GROUP
The First and Only Italian Fashion Stockhouse Chain in Asia
2305 Marconi cor. Morse Sts. Brgy. San Isidro, Makati Tel. 843-3942
Robinson's Galleria Tel. 637-5035
Festival Supermall Alabang Tel. 850-4033
SM Manila Tel. 400-7909
MC Nenita Bldg.I A.C. Cortez Ave., Mandaue City, Cebu Tel. (032) 346-7160
NOW OPEN Unit 2, Hilado Bldg. Lacson St., Bacolod City Tel. (034) 432-3245

www.lineaitaliagroup.com

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4180, Series of 2001

HCG
LAST 6 DAYS
to get a chance to win an all expense-paid trip for two in a Grand Alaskan Cruise in the
Win All Four
PACKAGE GETAWAY RAFFLE
Per DTI NCR Permit no.: 1437 series of 2001

MARK PACKAGE



P 20,400* only!
Original Price: P 26,400
Complete Package Includes:
• Pedestal Lavatory • Soap & Paper holder
• One piece Water Closet • Single lever Faucet & Fittings

Jupiter PACKAGE

P 8,500* only!
Original Price: P 13,330
Complete Package Includes:
• Pedestal Lavatory • Soap & Paper holder
• Elongated water Closet • Single lever Faucet & Fittings

Jupiter
BATHTUB PACKAGE
P 8,999* only!
Original Price: P 10,650
Complete Package Includes:
• Wall mounted ceramic disc faucet
• Acrylic Bathtub (F8150)

Hurry! Go to your nearest HCG dealer now!
Promo period: January 24 to February 1, 2002 only.
* WHITE COLOR ONLY

HCG BATHROOM FIXTURES
In Total Harmony with Your Lifestyle.

SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor ■ **Edwin M. Villanueva**, Assistant Editor

Flores Unson High hero

HAROLD Flores scored a hattrick to power Unson National High School of Pagsanjan past Licerio National High School of Rizal, 4-0, yesterday and into the semifinals of the all-Luzon Coke Go-for-Goal football championship at the Philsports pitch in Pasig City.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

TENNIS: Australian Open at 8 a.m. on Sky Cable 29 and Home Cable 17
MOTOR SPORTS: Final Drive at 6 p.m. on NBN 4
BASKETBALL: US NCAA - Cincinnati vs Saint Louis at 6 a.m. (r), NBA Inside Stuff at 11 a.m. (r – 6 p.m.) on Star Sports
GOLF: Masters Best Shots 1990 at 11 a.m. (r) on ESPN

SPORTSWATCH

Spring Oil wins

CEBU CITY—Spring Cooking Oil and Wang's Ballclub joined the winner's bracket after beating separate rivals yesterday in the elimination of the Cebu Basketball League Sinulog Open at the Cebu Coliseum here. Spring Cooking Oil repulsed the endgame rally of new member Salazar Institute of Technology to escape with a 78-72 triumph while Wang's Ball Club pulled an 86-85 squeaker over University of the East-Tanduay.

MMC beats JRU

METRO Manila College defeated Jose Rizal University, 101-96, yesterday to keep its quarterfinal bid alive in the National Capital Region eliminations of the National Students Basketball Championships at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum. Ferdinand Orna sizzled with 38 points and Angelito Javier added 20 for MMC, which rolled to its second straight win in group A. Earlier, Mapua demolished AMACU, 81-51.

Mandaluyong cockfest

BIG-TIME cockfighting resumes at Mandaluyong Coliseum when the "3rd Ucap/BJ Greenwood-Cock Derby" unfolds on Jan. 29 and 31. Sponsors of the event are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Washout Shampoo. At least 40 well-known cockers and breeders have firmed up their commitment to join this event. Derby host is Ucap president Butch Macasaet. Submission of weights is on Jan. 28, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call 531-4003, 531-4005, 535-2341 and 534-4110 for more details.

Cyber derby on

TOP American and *balikbayan* Filipino cockers will collide today in the first ever Cyberfriends Global 4-Cock Derby at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque City. With 70 matches lined up, action starts at 4 p.m. Hosted by Cyberfriends, a group of foreign-based Filipinos organized through the cockfighting website: sabong.com.ph, tonight's event aims to raise funds for the American cockers' fight against the enemies of cockfighting in America.

RACING TIPS

At Sta. Ana By Mr. 999

Race 1—1. Golden Prince 2.Winning Post 3. Black Ijhay 4. Precious Janina 5. Better Harry
Race 2—1. Golden Brook 2. Yes Sir 3. Gossip Column 4. Judicial System 5. Big Treasure
Race 3—1. All Smiles 2. My Indy 3. Kay Rufina
Race 4—1. Sumasagitsit 2. Count Your Blessing 3. Sekreta 4. Orphan 5. Midnight Runner
Race 5—1. Bull Dancing 2. Haz It All 3. Fortius 4. Sure to Glow
Race 6—1. Gidget 2. Always 3. Trail Blazer
Race 7—1. Beautiful Task 2. Tomahawk 3. Adrenalin 4. Romario 5. Courage
Race 8—1. Dynasouls 2. Togsi's Ambition 3. Two Thumbs Up 4. Merry Weather 5. Johann Song
Race 9—1. Terrific 2. Playing With Fire 3. Dynasty 4. Royal Worship 5. Top Quest
Race 10—1. Empowered 2. Gold Prosperity
Race 11—1. Michael's Way 2. Winning Heart 3. American Beauty 4. Grand Dragon 5. Be Ready
Race 12—1. Heavy Metal 2. Demoliton Jack 3. Cool Under Fire
Race 13—1. Come N Go 2. Tour de Force 3. Modulo Queen 4. Dedicated 5. Best Lover 6. The Painter

Dress up your 2002 REVO • ADVENTURE • CROSSWIND
BUY FACTORY PRICE A.U.V. • S.U.V. • VANS • PICK-UP
Now Available:
ISUZU CROSSWIND XR (X-TRM LOOK)
CROSSROAD CONVERSION PROMO
P40,000.00
1st Time in the Philippines
CROSSWIND ACCESSORIES:
Bulbar, Side Bar, Rear Bar, Bumper Overider, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Chrome Tail Lite, Trunk Lid Cover, Rear Spoiler Roof Rail
TOYOTA REVO SPORTS RUNNER (SR) CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO P 30,000
Two-Tone Painting P 5,000 only
AVAIL PACKAGE PROMO !!! WRAP AROUND STAINLESS BULL BARS P 17,000 only (FRONT, SIDE, REAR)
ALSO AVAILABLE
• ADVENTURE SUPER SPORT CONVERSION P 25,000
• HI-LANDER X-TRM CONVERSION P 33,000
• FUEGO SPORTS (4X4 LOOK) CONVERSION P 25,000
WE WILL BEAT Any Price in town
KIJANG
413-8080 • 413-8077
928-3878 • 928-2473
#22 New York St. Cubao, Q.C.
OTHER ACCESSORIES: A Bar, Running Board, Spoiler w/ Brake Light, Roof Rail/Rack, Sticker, Leather Seat Cover, Door Visor, Hood Guard, Console Box, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Wood Panel, Lexus Type Tail Light, Chrome Tail Light, Etc.

PACKAGE 1
satin trunks 2,900.00
boxing gear t-shirt black.........760.00
~~Reg. P3,660.00~~
SALE P1,999.00

PACKAGE 2
nevatear bag 50 lbs. 5,085.00
hand wrap natural 320.00
economy bag glove 1,210.00
boxing gear t-shirt black 760.00
~~Reg. P7,375.00~~
SALE P4,275.00

PACKAGE 3
nevatear bag 40 lbs. 4,087.00
hand wrap natural 320.00
boxing gear t-shirt black 760.00
~~Reg. P5,167.00~~
SALE P2,999.00

PROMO PERIOD
JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 26, 2002

EVERLAST Choice of Champions
JB SPORTS
Website: www.skyinet.net/~jbmsi/
e-mail: jbmsi@skyinet.net
Harrison Plaza, Manila ☎ 523-7041 • 526-3733
Park Square I, Makati City ☎ 892-1025 • 840-5346
SM City Manila, Ermita, Manila ☎ 522-9480
New Frontier, Cubao ☎ 911-0179 • 911-0239
SM City Cebu ☎ (032) 233-9495
Per DTI NCR Permit No. 0129 Series of 2002

'Subsidize, not shoulder NSAs'

Buhain adopts Tuason theme for Asiad bid

By Marc Anthony Reyes

CHAIR Eric Buhain of the Philippine Sports Commission said yesterday he would not change the criteria set by his predecessor, Butch Tuason, in selecting the athletes for the September Busan Asian Games.

He assured the Asian Games Task Force, a joint venture of the PSC and the Philippine Olympic Committee, he wouldl retain the theme "lean and mean" as the main basis for erecting Team Philippines.

At the same time, Buhain said he will only subsidize the NSAs "but not spend for all their operational expenses."

"It will practically be the same criteria as put forward by Mr. Tuason," said Buhain. "But I will push for a rigid training of all athletes. From now to September, they will immerse themselves in training while the PSC and the POC look for funds to support their Asian Games stint."

While funding is the job of sports officials, said Buhain, "athletes must do their share by pushing themselves to the limit while training for the Asiad."

Changing the topic, Buhain said, "The athletes and coaches alliance is asking for very simple things, like uniforms, equipment and dormitories."

But Buhain refused to give a timetable "because I have yet to look into the finances of the agency."

Said Buhain: "When I finally get an idea on the PSC finances, I can answer how long it will take me to satisfy their demands."

BUHAIN: "The athletes' demands are very simple, like uniforms and training equipment." ROMY HOMILLADA

Sebastian wants Garcia, Lim out

THE ATHLETES and Coaches Alliance of the Philippines yesterday said it would pursue its demand to have Richie Garcia and Weena Lim ousted as commissioners of the Philippine Sports Commission.

"We want them to step down so there will be a total revamp of the agency," said Jaime Sebastian, Acap president. "That way, we can really say that PSC is on its way to a new start."

Acap, which staged rallies last year against the PSC, considers itself a major force that led to the resignation of the PSC Chair Butch Tuason. Tuason was replaced by Eric Buhain on Jan. 23.

"But I think it will be different now," said Sebastian. "We are now dealing with an athlete who should understand what athletes and coaches really need." *Marc Anthony Reyes*

ERRATUM: The signature of President Macapagal was inadvertently clipped in the appointment letter addressed to Eric Buhain on Jan. 23, which appeared here yesterday. We regret the error.

Lydia: Torn between two lovers

LYDIA de Vega yesterday said she is torn between giving up her position as councilor of Meycauayan, Bulacan, and her possible appointment as commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission.

Reacting to statements made by President Macapagal that she's being considered as a PSC commissioner, De Vega said she was playing a "wait-and-see game."

Said De Vega: "If it's really final, then I really have to sit down with my family and discuss what's best for everybody. I admit it would be very hard for me to give up the (municipal) council because I'm an elected official."

The former Asian queen of sprints said deep "in my heart, I want to serve Philippine sports which has been very good to me during the two decades that I was a runner."

She said, "I know that I can do something for sports, and that in my own little way I can be of help especially to the national athletes. I was born in sports and it will always be my first love."

The 34-year-old legend said she could be "serving not only Meycauayan but the rest of the Philippines as well" once she accepts a PSC post. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

Baguio ahead by 3

BAGUIO CITY—Baguio Country Club assembled 271 points yesterday for a three-point lead over Alabang in the 27th Baguio Ladies Golf Tournament.

Anne Philipps had a day-best of 39 points as she powered Baguio CC's lead-grabbing 129 points.

She was supported by Nanette Filler (32), Cha Diciano (30) and Leny Cuyno (28).

Chua seeks DHL-NGAP crown

FRESH from a dramatic victory in the Philippine Ladies Open, Heidi Chua tries to make it two in a row when she competes in the DHL-NGAP Amateur Championship Canlubang North beginning Jan. 29.

Chua will be meeting the same rival she faced at Wack Wack last week—Aileen Yao—with the expected return of defending champion Carmelette Villaroman making the battle more interesting.

There will be no less than 12 low-handicappers from the ladies side vying for honors in the 54-hole competition conducted by the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP) ending on Feb. 1

Lina de Guzman, a driving range supervisor at Cangolf, looms as another potential threat with young players like the promising Jayvie Agojo coming in as longshots ready to pull off a big surprise.

The ladies' battle will provide a big sideshow to what is expected to be the tightest men's battles in recent years: Angelo Que against Juvic Pagunsan.

Que will be leading Southwoods while Pagunsan banners the Canlubang campaign as both teams also size themselves up for the coming Philippine Airlines Interclub in Cebu next month.

De Guzman Philta semifinalist

TOP seed Irwin de Guzman of La Salle-Greenhills outclassed Perena Alina, 6-2, 6-2, and No. 3 Nestor Celestino of San Beda College downed Renz de Villa, 6-2, 6-3, yesterday to reach the boys' 16-under semifinals in the Philta Classic 1 Age Group Championships at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

In the boys' 14-under class, second seed Arithmetico Lim of Chiang Kai Shek defeated No .5 Edwin Olivarez of La Salle-Zobel 6-3, 6-4 and No. 7 Russell Arcilla Jr. beat Hussein Macapendeg, 6-3, 6-3 to advance in the next round.

Earlier, No. 1 Berry Sepulveda of Cebu won by default over Karen Reyes to advance in the girls' 18-under semifinals against unranked Bien Zoleta of Mary Hill College-Lucena City, a 6-2, 6-2 winner over Ma. Angelico Ngo.

Sepulveda, the 16-under top seed, conquered Kristel Samala, 6-3, 6-1, to arrange a semifinal showdown with fourth seed Alyssa Labay, who defeated Ngo, 6-2, 6-3.

Meanwhile, action in the boys' 18-under semifinals resumes today at 11 a.m. with No. 1 Joseph Arcilla battling fourth seed Gino Bautista of Ateneo and No. 2 Christian Cuarto of Narciso School of Angeles City facing the third-seeded De Guzman.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1990, Polytechnic University of the Philippines earned 362 points to emerge overall champion of the 1990 State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association-NCR at the Rizal Technological Colleges in Mandaluyong. Also today in 1991, Mary Grace Estuesta scored a seven-stroke victory to claim her third Philippine Ladies Open crown at the Manila Golf Club.

RUSSIA'S Anna Kournikova (left) and partner Martina Hingis of Switzerland hold their trophy after their win in the women's doubles final at the Australian Open in Melbourne yesterday. Hingis and Kournikova defeated Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Daniela Hantuchova, 6-2, 6-7, 6-1. REUTERS

Safin, Johansson to clash in final

MELBOURNE, Australia — Marat Safin moved within one victory of his second Grand Slam title, rebounding after a rain delay to beat Tommy Haas, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-0, 6-2, Friday and reach the Australian Open final.

On Sunday, on his 22nd birthday, Safin will meet 16th-seeded Thomas Johansson, who outlasted No. 26 Jiri Novak 7-6 (5), 0-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 Thursday night.

Safin had beaten Pete Sampras for the 2000 US Open title and ousted him here in the fourth round, but made too many errors in the early stages against Haas.

Then, after a 50-minute rain delay with Safin leading 1-0 in the fourth set, Haas slumped and won only 11 points for the rest of the set.

Safin stepped up the pressure and broke for 3-1 in the final set on three Haas errors and a spectacular backhand crosscourt serve return.

He broke again in the final game, setting up match point with a dipping forehand crosscourt that Haas volleyed into the net. Haas served the sixth of his double faults to end the match of 4 hours, 28 minutes, including the rain delay.

At the start, a forehand volley miss that left Safin at 4-6 proved costly in the first-set tiebreaker. Haas finished by drawing him in with a drop shot and hitting a backhand down the line.

In both of the first two sets, Haas broke first, and then was broken back.

In the second, two double faults by the German helped Safin rebound to 3-3. The ninth-seeded Russian gained a 5-3 lead in the tiebreaker with two winners and cashed in his second set point with a heavy serve.

No. 7 Haas, however, saved a break point at 2-2 in the third with a diving forehand drop volley. He gained the key break for 4-2 by saving two game points with backhand winners, drawing a Safin miss after a self-defense serve return, and then forcing another error with a good forehand crosscourt.

The rain came after an afternoon when the temperature climbed to 35 degrees Celsius (95 degrees Fahrenheit), and a refreshed Safin played impeccable tennis the rest of the way. *AP*

JOHANSSON

SAFIN

PCA netters prevail

THE PHILIPPINE Columbian Association team won the Sequtech's 1st Invitational Tennis Tournament recently at the PCA courts at Plaza Dilao, Paco, Manila.

For their feat, the PCA netters received P25,000 plus trophy and medals from Sequtech Corporation, exclusive distributor of Powermax in the country.

Powermax Tennis Club emerged first runner-up and won P10,000 plus trophy, while Hillsborough Tennis Club got P5,000 for finishing second runner-up.

4 PBL teams knock each other out today

GAMES TODAY (Makati Coliseum)
1:45 p.m.—Kutitap Toothpaste vs Welcoat Paints
3:45 p.m.—ICTSI-La Salle vs Shark Energy

By Dennis U. Eroa

JUDGEMENT day comes early as four teams shooting for final slots mix it up today in the PBL Challenge Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

Forced to deciders by their highly determined rivals, bemedalled Welcoat Paints and tournament surprise ICTSI-La Salle try to salvage a roller-coaster season as they battle Kutitap Toothpaste and defending champion Shark Energy Drink, respectively.

"There'll be no more tomorrow," said Shark coach Leo Austria, who is eyeing his fourth straight finals appearance. "This is the game everybody's waiting for."

The Energy Drink Kings halted the Green Archers' advance with a 63-54 victory last Tuesday.

Inspired by the presence of team owner Cecilio de Pedro, coach Koy Banal's Sparklers completed the day of the underdogs as they upstaged the Paintmasters, 82-80, in the other Final Four pairing.

"God is faithful," exclaimed Banal, fresh from steering the Philippine cage team to the recent Asian University Games title hosted by Ateneo De Manila. Kutitap (formerly Hapee) last made a final appearance in 1996 where it also won the Reinforced Conference with Ma Jian.

The Kutitap-Welcoat tussle is set at 1:45 p.m., followed by the Shark-ICTSI-La Salle tussle. Both winners will advance to the finals.

Welcoat ran smacked against spirited Kutitap, whose players shone with fluid ball movements and a defense which shut down slotman Yancy de Ocampo in the shaded lane.

The Paintmasters, however, are no pushovers. Under coach Junel Baculi, Welcoat had entered the finals of the last five conferences, winning four titles.

Ren Ren Ritualo, De Ocampo, Jojo Manalo, Derick Canlas and Eugene Tan will spearhead Welcoat's attack. Kutitap leans heavily on Cyrus Baguio, who figured in a near-fight with Manalo last Tuesday, Nino Gelig, Rency Bajar and Allan Salangsang.

Jong postpones Nat'ls training

By June Navarro

JONG Uichico, head coach of the national team to this year's Asian Games, has decided to postpone training sessions over the weekend as 10 players in the national pool were either injured or down with fever.

Defensive specialist Chris Jackson of Shell, Patrick Fran of Talk N Text and Jeffrey Flowers felt ill and weren't able to attend yesterday's practice at the Moro Lorenzo Sports Complex inside the Ateneo campus.

PBA superstars Danny Ildefonso, Kenneth Duremdes, Johnny Abarrientos, Olsen Racela, Ali Peek and Noy Castillo continue to nurse various injuries along with Don Camaso, who is suffering from a hurting groin.

"I'm giving the national pool two days to recuperate from the injuries and sickness brought about by the intense weeklong practice," said Uichico, San Miguel Beer's head coach in the PBA.

Aside from these cagers, the rest of the 30-man training pool was just ignoring the bumps, sprains and bruises they absorbed the whole week.

"By Monday, majority of the players have already recovered and I expect to have quality practice sessions," said Uichico.

Strikingly missing during practice were Sta. Lucia Realty twin towers Marlou Aquino and Dennis Espino, who skipped training for the last three days.

A source told the INQUIRER that Aquino had a petty argument regarding allowances with Uichico on Tuesday, which the San Miguel Beer coach declined to reveal.

Red Bull gets Locsin

BATANG Red Bull completed the missing piece on its title-retention bid after hiring burly power forward Noli Locsin yesterday to a one-year deal.

The Thunder immediately grabbed the 30-year-old Locsin from the free-agent market after he agreed to a 50-percent contract buyout offered by Federal Express.

FedEx will have to shell out P2.7 million to cover the buyout.

"Although Noli is quite small on the forward position, I believe he will be an asset to the team," Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao told the INQUIRER.

June Navarro

Top rookies

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

A RECORD five non-US-born players will see action in the Rookie Challenge, which features the NBA's top rookies this year against the best second-year players in a 40-minute game, at Philadelphia's First Union Center on All-Star Saturday, Feb. 9 (Feb. 10, Manila time).

They are Memphis' Pau Gasol (Spain), Utah's Andrei Kirilenko (Russia) San Antonio's Tony Parker (France) and Detroit's Zeljko Rebraca (Yugoslavia), of the Rookie Team and Sacramento's Hedo Turkoglu (Turkey) of the Sophomore Team.

Of the five, the Barcelona-born Gasol is the most impressive. The 7-foot forward is the league's No. 1 scorer among first-yearmen, pacing the Grizzlies with his 16.7-point clip. He also ranks first among the newcomers in field goal percentage at .510 and is Memphis' leader in rebounds (9.0 rpg) and blocked shots (2.38 bpg).

The 21-year-old Gasol is the early frontrunner for this year's NBA Rookie of the Year award along with his Grizzlies mate Shane Battier and Indiana playmaker Jamaal Tinsley, both of whom are also competing in the Rookie Challenge.

In addition to the Rookie Challenge, there are three other "fun" events on NBA All-Star Saturday—the inaugural Hoop-It-Up, three-point Shootout and Slam Dunk Championship.

Hoop-It-Up, which replaces the 2ball competitions (involving one NBA player and one WNBA player), is a 3-on-3 half-court, single-elimination tournament that features four teams consisting of one NBA player, one WNBA player, one NBA legend (or old-timer) and one celebrity with the legend and celebrity able to substitute for one another.

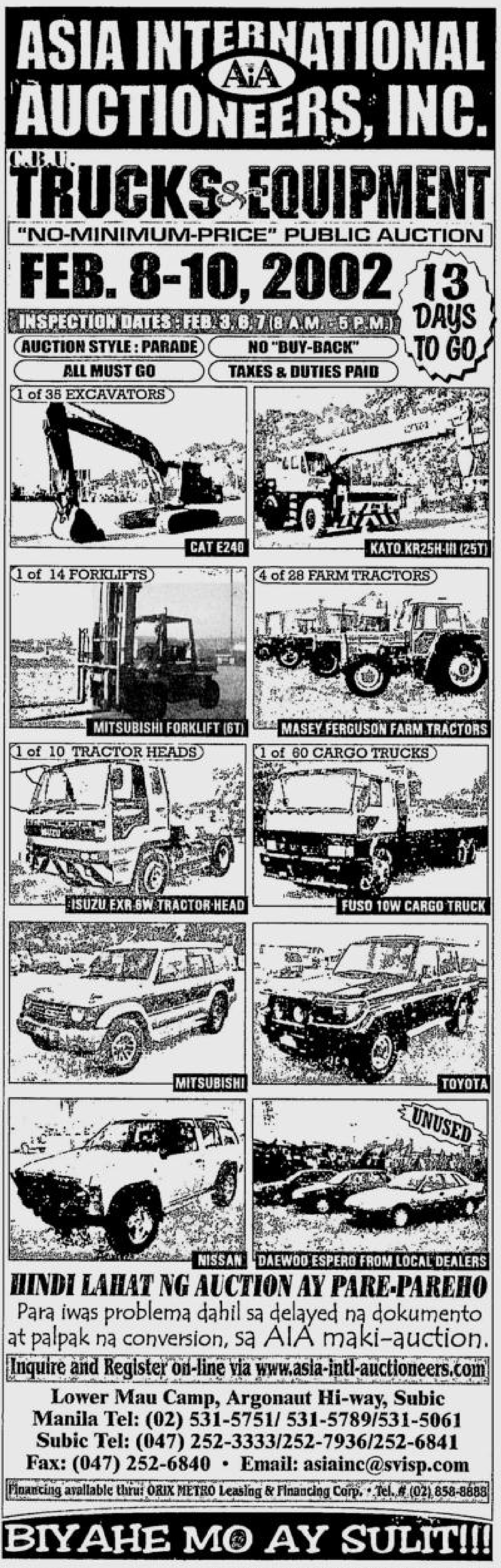
In the three-point Shootout, Milwaukee guard Ray Allen will defend his title, seeking to become the fifth player to win back-to-back championships after Larry Bird (1986-88), Craig Hodges (1990-92), Mark Price (1993-94) and Jeff Hornacek (1998/2000).

NBA RESULTS

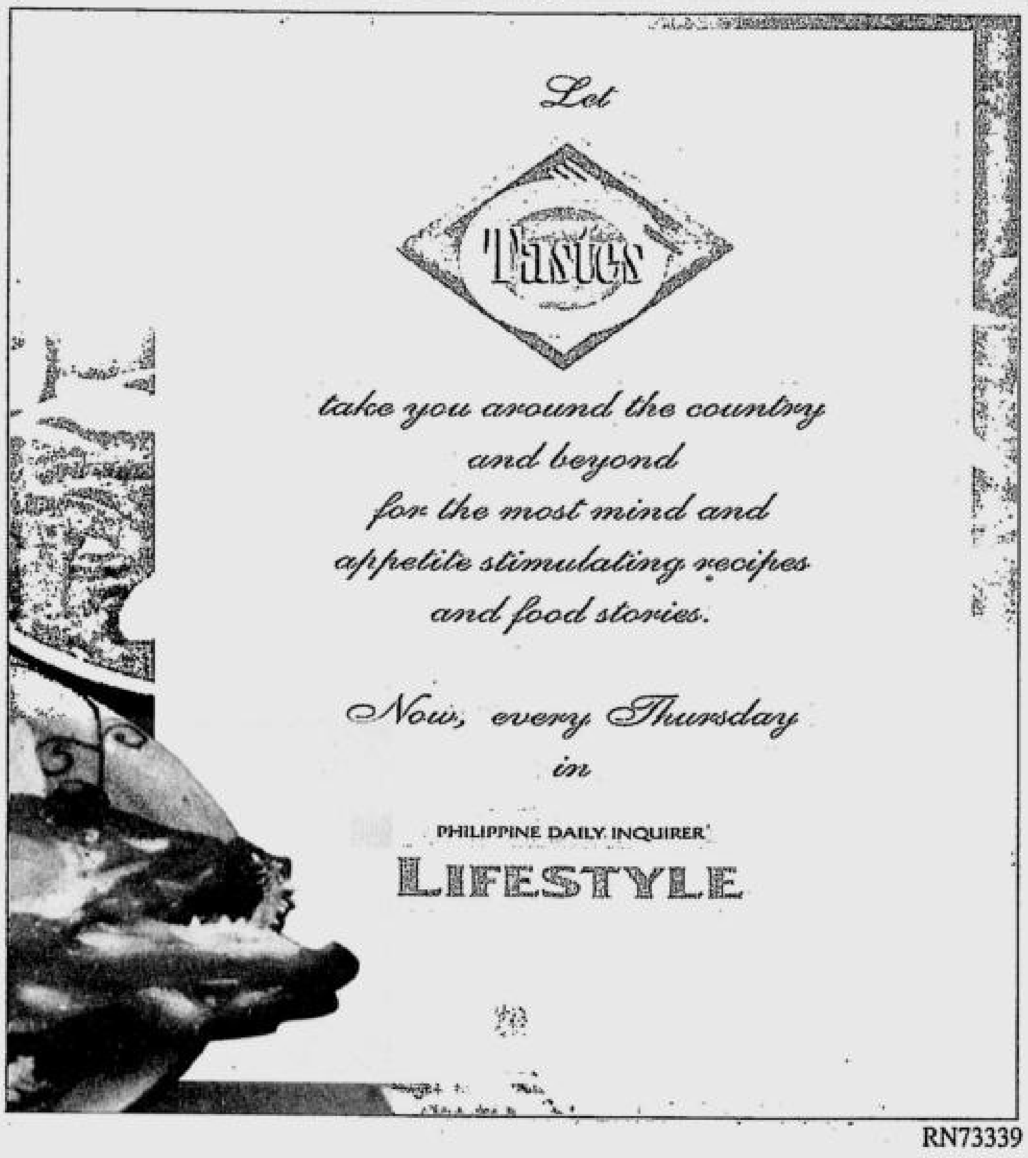
Wizards 94, Cavaliers 85; Knicks 96, Suns 91; SuperSonics 99, Bucks 88; Magic 92, Heat 87; Nets 103, Rockets 98; Mavericks 104, Nuggets 97; Kings 113, Jazz 80; Trail Blazers 120, Grizzlies 82. *AP*

La Salle triumphs

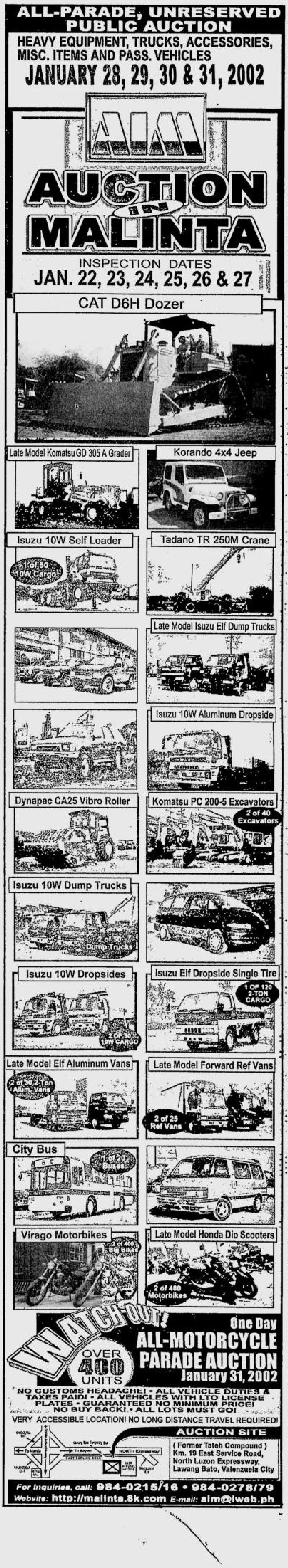
JECK Severino scored the go-ahead basket with two seconds left as defending champion De La Salle-Manila claimed a 63-62 victory over Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Game One of their National Capital Region Athletic Association (NCRAA) women's basketball championship yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Basketball Stadium.



ASIA INTERNATIONAL AiA AUCTIONEERS, INC.
C.B.U. TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
"NO-MINIMUM-PRICE" PUBLIC AUCTION
FEB. 8-10, 2002
13 DAYS TO GO
INSPECTION DATES : FEB. 3, 6, 7 (8 A.M. - 5 P.M.)
AUCTION STYLE : PARADE
NO "BUY-BACK"
ALL MUST GO
TAXES & DUTIES PAID
1 of 35 EXCAVATORS — CAT E240
KATO.KR25H-III (25T)
1 of 14 FORKLIFTS — MITSUBISHI FORKLIFT (6T)
4 of 28 FARM TRACTORS — MASEY FERGUSON FARM TRACTORS
1 of 10 TRACTOR HEADS — ISUZU EXR 6W TRACTOR HEAD
1 of 60 CARGO TRUCKS — FUSO 10W CARGO TRUCK
MITSUBISHI
TOYOTA
NISSAN
UNUSED — DAEWOO ESPERO FROM LOCAL DEALERS
HINDI LAHAT NG AUCTION AY PARE-PAREHO
Para iwas problema dahil sa delayed na dokumento at palpak na conversion, sa AIA maki-auction.
Inquire and Register on-line via www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com
Lower Mau Camp, Argonaut Hi-way, Subic
Manila Tel: (02) 531-5751/ 531-5789/531-5061
Subic Tel: (047) 252-3333/252-7936/252-6841
Fax: (047) 252-6840 • Email: asiainc@svisp.com
Financing available thru: ORIX METRO Leasing & Financing Corp. • Tel. # (02) 858-8888
BIYAHE MO AY SULIT!!!



Let Tastes take you around the country and beyond for the most mind and appetite stimulating recipes and food stories.
Now, every Thursday in
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LIFESTYLE
RN73339



ALL-PARADE, UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
HEAVY EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS, ACCESSORIES, MISC. ITEMS AND PASS. VEHICLES
JANUARY 28, 29, 30 & 31, 2002
AIM
AUCTION IN MALINTA
INSPECTION DATES
JAN. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27
CAT D6H Dozer
Late Model Komatsu GD 305 A Grader
Korando 4x4 Jeep
Isuzu 10W Self Loader — 1 of 50 10W Cargo
Tadano TR 250M Crane
Late Model Isuzu Elf Dump Trucks
Isuzu 10W Aluminum Dropside
Dynapac CA25 Vibro Roller
Komatsu PC 200-5 Excavators — 2 of 40 Excavators
Isuzu 10W Dump Trucks — 2 of 50 Dump Trucks
Isuzu 10W Dropsides — 2 of 50 10W CARGO
Isuzu Elf Dropside Single Tire — 1 OF 120 2-TON CARGO
Late Model Elf Aluminum Vans — 2 of 30 2-Ton Alum. Vans
Late Model Forward Ref Vans — 2 of 25 Ref Vans
City Bus — 1 of 20 Buses
Virago Motorbikes — 2 of 400 Big Bikes
Late Model Honda Dio Scooters — 2 of 400 Motorbikes
WATCH-OUT! OVER 400 UNITS
One Day ALL-MOTORCYCLE PARADE AUCTION January 31, 2002
NO CUSTOMS HEADACHE! • ALL VEHICLE DUTIES & TAXES PAID! • ALL VEHICLES WITH LTO LICENSE PLATES • GUARANTEED NO MINIMUM PRICE! NO BUY BACK! • ALL LOTS MUST GO!
VERY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION! NO LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL REQUIRED!
AUCTION SITE
(Former Tateh Compound)
Km. 19 East Service Road,
North Luzon Expressway,
Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City
For Inquiries, call: 984-0215/16 • 984-0278/79
Website: http://malinta.8k.com E-mail: aim@iweb.ph

Here's another way to chat from SMART!

LINK TV
key in TRIVIA and send it to 203031
SMART
Simply Amazing!
www.smart.ze

Garfield: Hi! Anybody want to chat?

Ms. Perfect: Hi Garfield! I'm 19 F Pasig bout u?

Bookworm: Hello Red. Are you going to the eyeball next Saturday?

Red: Yup! See yah! =)

Hunk: Gr8! me too!

Shadow: ASL Garfield

Garfield: I'm 20 M Makati

Introducing SMART Link TV Chat.

Get into some chatting fun with SMART Link TV Chat, the newest member of SMART's array of chat services. It's a 24-hour chat broadcast on Home Cable Channel 44, Sky Cable Channel 41, and in 13 universities all over Metro Manila. Best of all, you chat through your SMART celfone! Just register once then chat for only P2.50 per message. Talk about anything under the sun with students just like you, and watch people respond to your message right before your eyes on TV! Register today! If you thought watching TV was fun, try chatting on it!

Check out our other chat services!

SMART B-My-Buddy Chat. It's the coolest way to chat. You can search for people by age, sex, and location. Then chat anonymously through your celfone! Try it now!

To Create Nickname, type NICK <nickname> A<age> S<sex> L<location>
To Find Buddy, type FIND A<age> S<sex> L<location>
To Look Up Buddy, type LOOK <nickname>
To Send Message, type TO <nickname of recipient> <message>
Send all to 222.

SMART I-chat. Send instant messages from your celfone to any PC in the world! It's a great way to keep in touch with your friends here and abroad. Register today! To register, type **REG** and send to **277.**

How to register a nickname:

REGISTER
<paul>

Type REGISTER <nickname> and send to 20301.

How to send a message:

20301

Type your message. Send it to 20301 and see your message on TV. Viewers may respond to your message and view their responses on TV.

LINK TV

SMART

Simply Amazing!

Available through:

GOLD GSM

Buddy prepaid

METRO

Louie C. Camino, Editor

Angara mediating for Korina—lawyer

SANCHEZ

ANGARA

By Alcuin Papa

OPPOSITION Sen. Edgardo Angara is trying to negotiate for an amicable settlement between his supposed goddaughter Korina Sanchez and her former maid Bernadita Inocencio, who had filed cases against the ABS-CBN newsreader, according to lawyer Mel "Batas" Mauricio, counsel for Inocencio.

Mauricio yesterday told the INQUIRER that Angara called him up recently to talk about a compro-

ANGARA/ A22

WAZZZZUP ? ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

BUMA 9591 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI	MUSIC MAKING CO.	☎896.1939
Cowboy Grill BRGY. ALMANZA, LAS PIÑAS	FEEDBACK THINKERS W/ JOGRAD	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801.7644
Cowboy Grill 5591 ARQUEZA ST. MAKATI	ICE KENDI MR. ROXY/HIMIG	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C.	KOOL JACKS MIX-UP/FREEZE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎936.9757
Cowboy Grill 431 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE	HOMOSAPIENS MUSIC CIRCUIT	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎521.8143
Friends @ the square ST. FRANCIS SQ. ORTIGAS CENTER	I-AXE	☎635.0279
TIA MARIA'S JUPITER ST., MAKATI CITY	ENIGMA VERSE 2	GREAT DIVIDE JAN. 31 ☎890.4735
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR CAROLINA ST.	D,BUMP E-7	WISEGUYS JAN. 30 ☎522-0429

OUTSIDE METRO MANILA

Cowboy Grill BINAN, LAGUNA	STREETLIFE KNIGHTS	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎(049) 511.7268
Partyplace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	COLORED PEOPLE JOEY B. & BLUE	☎(045)961.3360

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 912-89839

Only The Best Pass The Hunter's Test
SMART
ANIME Mania
HUNTER X HUNTER

Power up with 100% anime action with Smart's Anime Mania! Take the challenge to be a hunter with Gon! Get all the action with exclusive anime logos, picture messages, screensavers and ringtones. See if you have what it takes to be a Hunter through a text-based game! You can even build on the fun by inviting friends to be part of the anime circle!

To join, key in **JOIN ANIME** and send to **235**. (Once a member you can download exclusive anime logos, pics and ringtones)
To invite a friend, key in **INVITE** <invitee's Smart cellfone number> and send to **235**. (You can invite up to 3 friends per message.)
To play the game, key in **PLAY ANIME** and send to **235**.

gon <picture message/screensavers>
leorio <logo/group graphic>
hxhlogo <picture message/screensavers>
hxhgoneyes <logo/group graphic>
hxhkillua <picture message/screensaver>

To Get Hunter X Hunter...	Key In
Logo List of Keywords	LOGO HXH and send to 235
Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 235
Group Graphics List of Keywords	GROUP HXH and send to 235
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 235
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC HXH and send to 235
Picture Messages*	PIC <keyword> and send to 235
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER HXH and send to 235
Screen Savers*	SAVER <keyword> and send to 235
Help on the Commands	HELP and send to 235

To Download Ringtones...
Key in TONE <keyword> and send to 235.
Choose from:
HXHTONE1
HXHTONE2
HXHTONE3
HXHTONE4

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only

Powered by: Information Gateway

SMART Simply Amazing!

©Yoshihiro Togashi / Shueisha, Fuji TV, Nippon Animation, Telesuccess Productions All information requests sent will be charged P2.50 each. Downloading of logos, picture messages, group graphics and ringtones will be charged P12.00 each.

mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO

SABADO SPECIAL

GET UP TO 10% DISCOUNT ON PARTICIPATING PRODUCTS

SALE PRICES
JAN.26- FEB 1, 2002

DOH BFAD NO. 01002 S. 2001

EQUAL BREAKFAST BUDDIES	105.50	P 111.00
COLGATE DBLE COOL STRIPE 90G	32.00	P 33.75
COLGATE DBLE COOL STRIPE 160G	52.00	P 54.75
BEAR BRAND PDR FMLK 1.8KG	273.00	P 281.50
ANCHOR FC MLK PDR 180G	40.75	P 42.00
NIDO PDR MLK 200G	44.50	P 44.75
NIDO PDR MLK 450G	97.25	P 100.25
CARNATION CAL PLUS NFAT 450G	140.90	P 145.25

mercury drug
NAKASISIGURO GAMOT AY LAGING BAGO
For other promo, pls. visit our Website at:
www.mercurydrug.com
e-mail: info@mercurydrug.com

Judge rejects petition to stop Rizal landfill

By Nelson F. Flores

A JUDGE from the San Mateo Regional Trial Court rejected a petition for a temporary restraining order that would stop the operation of the Rodriguez (formerly Montalban) Sanitary Landfill, according to Mayor Pedro Cuerpo.

Cuerpo said Regional Trial Court Judge Jose Reyes Jr. rejected the petition filed by Pastor Cruz, leader of the cause-oriented group Mamamayan ng Montalban Ayaw sa Basura, for failing to show enough evidence to warrant the suspension of the operation of the landfill. Citing Judge Reyes' decision, Cuerpo said the petitioners failed to prove the need to close the landfill.

With the rejection, there is no more legal hindrance to the operation of the landfill, Cuerpo noted. He said he felt vindicated and pointed out the lack of public support of his opponents, whom he described as having "tried every trick in the book" to stop the opening of the landfill.

Earlier, opponents to the landfill operation reportedly spread rumors that Judge Reyes had issued a TRO against the landfill. The misleading information allegedly caused some confusion after some newspapers and radio stations picked up the story.

"All their moves to stop the operation of the landfill did not materialize," Cuerpo said.

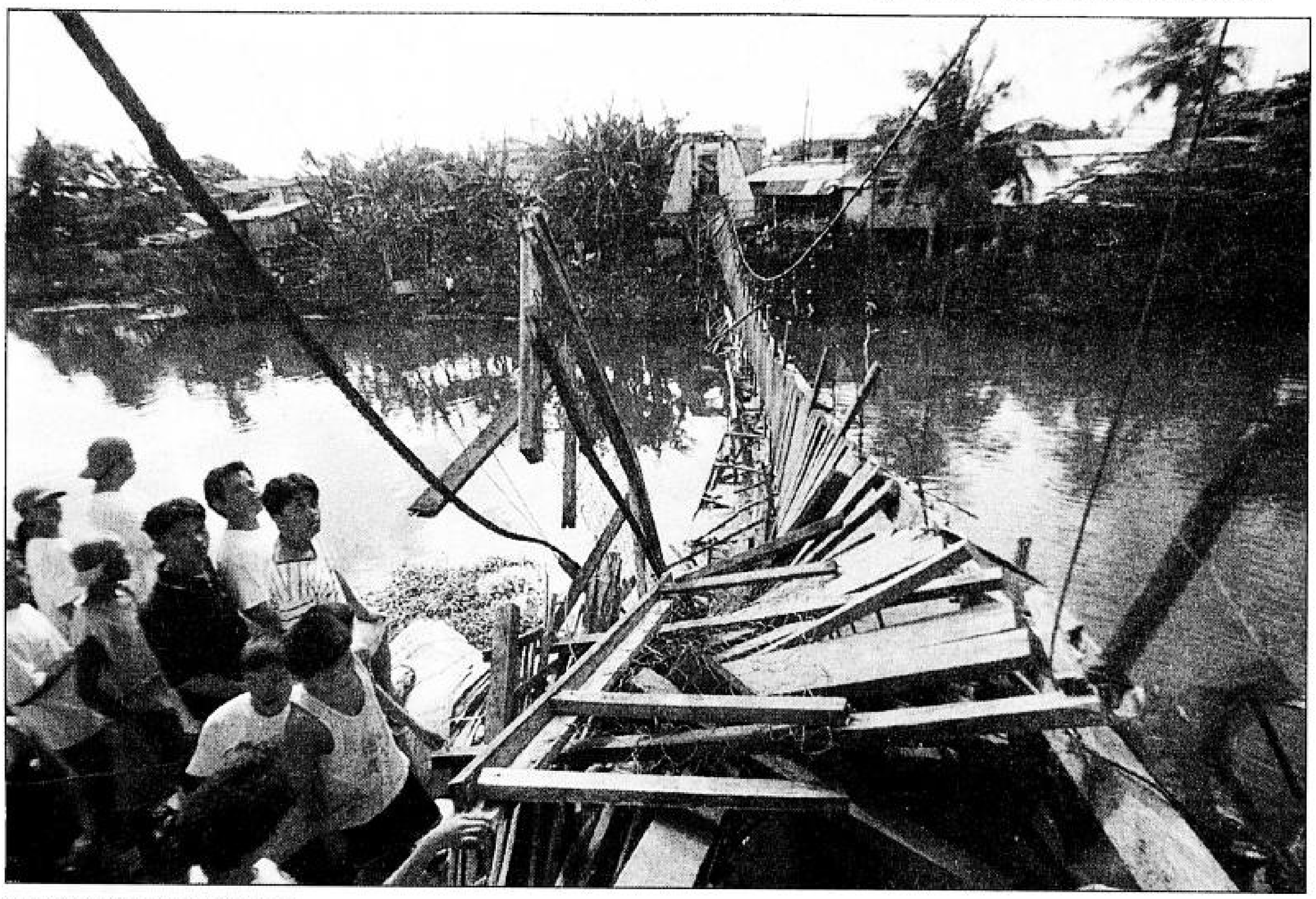
He said the landfill would bring P4 billion to the town coffers in three years, more than enough to develop the town into a bustling municipality of Rizal province. He said Rodriguez only has a budget of P85 million a year.

Cuerpo said the construction of the 30-meter wide service road leading to the dumpsite would open the municipality to development at no expense to local residents. The road, which will be built for P130 million, will also serve as an alternative route to the municipality.

"The road would pave the way for the development of a road system in the municipality," Cuerpo said.

At present, there is only one road leading to Rodriguez, and that is the narrow national highway, which has become so crowded that traffic is now common in what was once a sleepy town in Rizal, Cuerpo said.

But eight days after the 4-hectare landfill began operations, its full potential has yet to be exploited, Cuerpo said. Contrary to expectations, only a few of Metro Manila local government units use the landfill, which is located in Sitio Lukutang Malaki in Barangay San Isidro, he said. Cuerpo added that there was no longer any reason for the Metro Manila local government units not to dump their garbage in Rodriguez, unless they have their own illegal dumpsites.



A BRIDGE TOO FRAIL JOAN BONDOC

Mayor Tomas Tanjuatco of Tanay, Rizal has ordered an investigation of the collapse of this two-year-old wood-and-wire-and-rope bridge that killed a 9-year-old girl and injured about 50 other people during the town fiesta last Thursday morning. The investigation should determine if the head of Barangay Wawa, where the bridge is located, could be held liable, according to the mayor's staff.

Nelson F. Flores

Manila's Finest question transfers to provinces

By Jerome Aning

POLICEMEN of the Western Police District should not be transferred to faraway provinces for being absent or tardy and for wearing improper or incomplete uniform during roll call formations, according to the organization of non-commissioned members of the WPD.

In asking the National Police Commission to reconsider and study the legality of the transferring policemen found violating recently issued disciplinary rules, the Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association Inc. described the measure as "arbitrary and too severe."

SPO4 Virgo Villareal, the association's public relations officer, said they were forced to bring their protest to the Napolcom after two "fruitless dialogues" with National Capital Regional Police Office chief Dir. Edgardo Aglipay, who issued the disciplinary rules.

"We hope the Napolcom commissioners will listen to us and understand our situation," he said in an interview. "This dictatorial policy should be stopped."

In their letter dated Jan. 18, MFBAI argued that absence, tardiness, and the use of incomplete uniform are considered only as "minor offenses" under Section 41 of Republic Act 6975, which deals with administrative disciplinary machinery.

The group said this provision "has been flagrantly violated due to absence of due notice and summary hearing," as the erring policeman is "immediately and indiscriminately transferred" after being found absent, late or not in complete uniform.

The MFBAI is composed of about 3,000 policemen with the rank of SPO4 and below. The group said the indiscriminate transfer of erring policemen is "inviting divisiveness and demoralization instead of installing discipline and rapport among the police rank and file."

They asked the Napolcom to recall all the policemen who were transferred and have the sanctions against them instituted in their original place of assignment.

Villareal said the NCRPO has continuously issued transfer orders since November 2001, affecting some 400 WPD personnel. The policemen were transferred to police units as far as Bicol and Cagayan Valley regions.

The policemen's association contended that transfer of personnel is a management process and not a punishment or administrative disciplinary machinery.

Assignment of members in the police force, the association said, is to ensure systematic and effective utilization of all members of the force. This should be the prime consideration in determining the assignment of any member of the police force.

Quoting Section 7 of RA 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, the MFBAI said "reassignment to other police duties, consistent with existing laws and regulations, (should) be guided by the principle of placing the right man in the right job after proper classification has been made."

Guard falls to death in lift shaft

SECURITY officer Gilbert Lanorias, 28, fell to his death after he walked into an elevator shaft which still did not have its carriage.

Police said Lanorias, of Zalameda Security Agency, and a resident of Navotas, fell from the third floor of Midland Plaza Condominium down to the basement at about 1:45 p.m. Thursday, said investigator Eduardo Paterno of the Western Police District Homicide Section.

He said Lanorias apparently did not notice the "out of order" sign near the elevator door.

Lanorias was escorting guests interested in leasing units at the condominium on Adriatico Street in Ermita, Manila when the accident happened, police said.

Lanorias walked backwards into the empty elevator shaft and fell to his death, police said.

Other security guards of the condominium tried to save Lanorias when they heard the guests screaming, but he was declared dead on arrival at the Philippine General Hospital, police said.

Philip C. Tubeza

2 bankers ambushed in Mandaluyong

By Nelson F. Flores

TWO men on a motorcycle ambushed two Chinese-Filipino businessmen and seriously wounded one of them in Mandaluyong City before midnight Thursday.

Police said Simon Ong, 46, former vice president of the Philippine Bank of Communications and a resident of Barangay Plainview, Mandaluyong City, was shot four times and was taken to an undisclosed hospital where he is reportedly in serious condition.

Simon's companion, Tony Ong, 56, an executive of the Westmont Investment Corp., was not hurt in the ambush, police said.

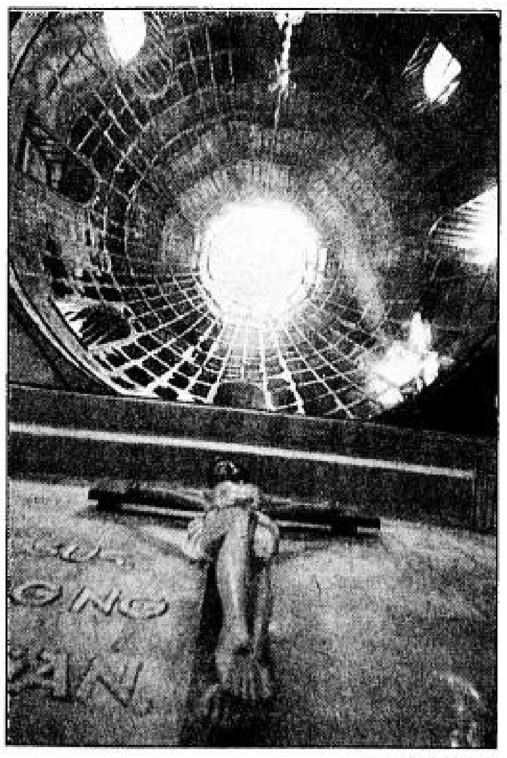
Police said the incident happened about 11:45 p.m. at the corner of Ginhawa and Kayumanggi Streets, Barangay Barangka Drive. The businessmen were on board a maroon Nissan Sentra with conduction sticker 80 NYR, when they were attacked from behind.

Witnesses told investigators that the gunmen on board a motorcycle, approached the victims' car as they reached a dimly lighted street corner. They said the gunmen, without warning, raked the victims' car with gunfire before they fled.

Before the ambush, Simon had just attended a farewell party thrown for him in Greenhills, San Juan, police said.

Police said Ong resigned from his job last Jan. 24 to start a new business.

Police suspected a business rival could be behind the attack.



JOAN BONDOC

CHARRED CHURCH

This altar, including this old image of the crucified Christ, and the conical ceiling over it were damaged in a fire that hit the parish church of San Ildefonso, Bulacan last Thursday.

What if the lawyers were right?

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

I HOPE my lawyer-informants were wrong about Sandiganbayan Justice Minita Chico-Nazario, appointed recently by the Supreme Court to head a special division to hear all cases against deposed President Erap.

At least 10 lawyers told me they knew Nazario very well. What they told me about her can't be printed because it's libelous.

By the way, most of those lawyers do not know one another.

***

If those lawyers were wrong or lying about Nazario, then she would handle the cases against Erap with judicious dispatch.

But what if those lawyers were right?

Can the Supreme Court please review its appointment of Nazario and investigate her background?

***

Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona displayed statesmanship when he bowed to the will of the majority on the deployment of US forces in Basilan.

Guingona is an arch critic of the US participation in the "war games" meant to rid Basilan of the terrorist Abu Sayyaf. He claims that allowing foreign troops into the country is a violation of the Constitution.

But Guingona gave way to the opinion of the Department of Justice that the President can approve the stay of US troops under the Visiting Forces Agreement.

For subordinating his personal feelings to the majority decision of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration, Guingona deserves his countrymen's gratitude.

***

Let's face it: The Abu Sayyaf gets support from al-Qaida, an international terrorist organization responsible for the Sept. 11 infamy. Its members were trained in terrorism and guerrilla warfare in Afghanistan during the war with Russia.

The Abu Sayyaf are too well-trained for our soldiers. Government troops will in time learn the tricks of the foreign-trained terrorist group from American experts on anti-terrorism and guerrilla warfare.

Let's allow our troops to study the ways of terrorism and jungle fighting from the Americans. It's an on-the-job training for our troops.

We lose nothing from the experience, only our false pride.

***

A huge shipment of infected chicken parts, rejected by Japan and China, may find its way into the country and pose a serious health risk to the public.

Senators Manuel Villar and Edgardo Angara aired the warning in separate statements.

The responsibility of preventing the entry of the dangerous shipment into the country lies in the Bureau of Customs.

***

But how can the customs bureau live up to that responsibility when some of its officials are consorting with the notorious smuggler of chicken parts, a Chinese-Filipino who was very close to former President Erap?

Even after his friend was deposed, the Chinoy continues with his smuggling activities. He has apparently found favor with the new set of customs officials.

During Erap's time, this Chinoy, who has duty-free shops in many parts of the country, was the subject of complaints by local chicken growers because he imported chicken parts.

***

A few months ago, this Chinoy was reportedly seen in the company of some customs officials at a five- star hotel on Roxas Boulevard.

What made their meeting highly suspicious was that they did not do it at any of the restaurants in the hotel. They talked inside a room in the hotel, my sources said.

After that meeting, according to my sources, the Chinoy's smuggled shipments were no longer touched by alert customs agents.

***

SPO1 Narciso Padua of Camp Crame went to the Makati prosecutor's office to file a case criminal case against a neighbor who allegedly molested his daughter. He was accompanied by cops from the women and children's desk of the Makati police station.

Padua said when he went into an office of some assistant prosecutors, he saw its occupants drinking liquor and already drunk. They were already rowdy, the cop said. It was between 3 and 4 p.m., office hours.

The prosecutors humiliated him by driving him away, according to the policeman. Padua said he was in uniform at the time.

He identified two of the assistant prosecutors as Andres Pio and Delfin Lopez.

***

Subic Bay Collector Billy Bibit has set such a bad precedent at the graft-ridden Bureau of Customs, his fellow officials no longer obey official orders.

Bibit's deputy collectors— Rodolfo Campos, Jean Flores and Percito Lozada—have also filed for, and were granted, a court injunction for their retention at the Subic Bay port. Bibit was earlier granted a petition to remain as Subic port collector by the same court.

Their superiors in Manila have ordered them transferred to other ports. But they refused to obey the order.

If the same situation is replicated in other ports and at the main customs offices at the South Harbor, the bureau might as well be abolished.

Angara mediating . . .

(From page A21)

mise on the suits Inocencio filed against Sanchez.

Mauricio, who himself has a radio program on GMA-7, rival network of ABS-CBN, and Angara are both members of the Sigma Rho fraternity of the University of the Philippines College of Law. He said he met with Angara this week at the Senate.

In a telephone interview with the Inquirer yesterday, Sanchez refused to comment on Angara's reported request to settle the case. Her new lawyer, Irish Bonifacio, also failed to call up the Inquirer as of press time.

Angara also declined to comment on his alleged intervention in the case.

"He (Angara) wanted to settle the cases because Korina wanted a settlement to avoid further embarrassment to her and to her network," Mauricio said. "Evidently, it was understood that it was a financial settlement that was offered."

Quoting Angara, Mauricio said Sanchez feared that if the cases were not settled soon, there would be a backlash on her broadcasting career. He said that he told Angara he would talk to Inocencio, who he claimed rejected the offer yesterday.

Inocencio accused Sanchez and her reported boyfriend Paul O. Aquino of beating her up and then physically throwing her out of Aquino's unit at Bel-Air Condominium in Makati last Dec. 21. She also accused Sanchez of not remitting her contributions to the Social Security System.

Sanchez had denied beating up Inocencio, whom she in turn accused of stealing her expensive bracelet.

Mauricio said this was not the first time a settlement was offered to Inocencio. He said Sanchez herself had called up his client, when she was being investigated at the Makati City Police station. He said Sanchez had "begged" her former maid to drop the charges against her.

Quoting Sanchez, Mauricio said the broadcast personality begged Inocencio, saying, "Have mercy on me Edith. Don't push through with the case because it would cause me embarrassment. Let's just settle this."

Sanchez had also denied she called up Inocencio to ask her to agree to a settlement.

But Inocencio also said Sanchez's lawyer Bonifacio offered her a financial settlement last Thursday. She said the offer was made in the office of Makati City Fiscal Albert Calalo. Inocencio claimed she also rejected the offer.

Speaking in Filipino, Inocencio said, "The fight will go on. There will be no settlement now even if Korina throws up a million pesos."

AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

All Digital Sound

GLORIETTA 1
formerly QUAD

1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER	In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	THE LORD OF THE RINGS	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
4	AMERICAN ADOBO	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GLORIETTA 4

1	THE OTHERS	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	AMERICAN ADOBO	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN THX	In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	CORKY ROMANO	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	ZOOLANDER	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN	In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	BEHIND ENEMY LINES	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

Art Film

GREENBELT

1	.MOV - THE DIGITAL MOVIE FEST	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN	In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	THE OTHERS	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
4	WEEKEND W/ POPS JAN. 25 & 26 Onstage 9:00 PM	

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN THX	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
2	THE OTHERS	In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	AMERICAN ADOBO	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	CORKY ROMANO	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES	In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DOLBY)	THE OTHERS
2 (SDDS)	ZOOLANDER
3 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 GOLD (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	CORKY ROMANO
6 GOLD (SDDS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
9	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
10	AMERICAN ADOBO

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	RESERVE
2	BUKO PANDAN
3 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	BUKO PANDAN

METROPOLIS star
Tel. 850 4285

1	CORKY ROMANO
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
4	BUKO PANDAN
5	THE OTHERS
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7512010 to 13

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	BURLESK KING
2	HUBOG

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	
2	BUKO PANDAN
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	BUKO PANDAN
A	GIRL FEVER

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3	BUKO PANDAN
4	GIRL FEVER

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8568

1 (DOLBY)	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
5	CORKY ROMANO
6	AMERICAN ADOBO
7 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8 (SDDS)	THE OTHERS
9 (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
4 (SDDS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	HUBOG
6 (DOLBY)	LORD OF THE RINGS
7 (DTS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8	BUKO PANDAN
9	BURLESK KING

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
3	AMERICAN ADOBO
4	CORKY ROMANO
5 (SDDS)	THE OTHERS
6	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
7 (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8	BURLESK KING

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	CORKY ROMANO
3 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	AMERICAN ADOBO
5 (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	MEN'S
Lords	TUKSO
Jennet	RESERVE

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	THE OTHERS

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
5	THE OTHERS

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	CORKY ROMANO
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	BUKO PANDAN

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
3 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2 (DTS)	AMERICAN ADOBO
3 (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2 (DOLBY)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	WALANG IWANAN
2	GLADIATOR
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MovieTown
TEL. (045) 9821729 (Tarlac)

1	BURLESK KING
2	ON THE LINE
3 (DOLBY)	ZOOLANDER
4 (DTS)	ON THE LINE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	BUKO PANDAN
3	MY WIFE LOVER
4 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
3 (DTS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	BUKO PANDAN
5	AMERICAN ADOBO

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BUKO PANDAN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BUKO PANDAN

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	BURLESK KING
2	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3	BUKO PANDAN

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
3	LORD OF THE RINGS

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER
2 (DTS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	BUKO PANDAN
2	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3	BURLESK KING

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	BURLESK KING
2	ZOOLANDER
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	LORD OF THE RINGS
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 (DTS ES)	MAHAL KITA : FINAL ANSWER

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

CMG INTERNATIONAL

Mla Lang Compound, Amorsolo cor. Dela Rosa St., Makati City

E-Mail: gamigeth@asiagoam

PREMIERE CINEMA THX NOW SHOWING

STARRING IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER
GEORGE CLOONEY MATT DAMON ANDY GARCIA BRAD PITT AND JULIA ROBERTS

OCEAN'S ELEVEN

3 CASINOS. 11 GUYS. 150 MILLION BUCKS.
READY TO WIN BIG?

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas
NOW SHOWING
e-mail : htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA
632-9115-16 / 633-7641 loc. 278

THX

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	LORD OF THE RING
4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5	MAHAL KITA . . .
6	THE OTHERS
7	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8	AMERICAN ADOBO
9	CORKY ROMANO
10	ZOOLANDER

ERMITA
536-7809 TO 12

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	MAHAL KITA . . .
4	THE OTHERS
5	AMERICAN ADOBO
6	CORKY ROMANO
7	BEHIND ENEMY LINES

METRO EAST
632-9115-16 / 633-7641

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	LORD OF THE RINGS OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	MAHAL KITA . . .
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES ZOOLANDER

NOVALICHES
936-3229 TO 31

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	LORD OF THE RINGS
5	MAHAL KITA . . .
6	MAHAL KITA . . .
7	ZOOLANDER
8	AMERICAN ADOBO

IMUS
(046) 471-8190

1 7	LORD OF THE RINGS
2 8	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	MAHAL KITA . . .
4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5	AMERICAN ADOBO
6	THE OTHERS

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453 / 0459

1	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	GLASS HOUSE
4	GIRL FEVER
5	ON THE LINE
6	SPY GAME

ILOILO
(033) 336- 8077 / 8078

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	SPY GAME
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	AMERICAN ADOBO
5	EARTHQUAKE
6	WALANG IWANAN

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	AMERICAN ADOBO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	CORKY ROMANO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	THE OTHERS
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	H'WAG KANG KIKIBO / ORIGINAL SIN
ODEON	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
ODEON-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
ROBEN	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	THE HOLE / EARTHQUAKE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	BUKO PANDAN
REMAR	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
REMAR-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
B	
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CORKY ROMANO
CINEMA-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAGONG BUWAN
CINEMA-2	BUKO PANDAN
CINEMA-3	AMERICAN ADOBO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BURLESK KING
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-6	HUBOG
CINEMA-7	YAMASHITA
CINEMA-8	WALANG IWANAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	ZOOLANDER
CINEMA-12	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-14	SPY GAME
CINEMA-15	AMERICAN ADOBO

LORES

CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED

POWER PLANT CINEMA

CINEMA-1	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CINEMA-3	AMERICAN ADOBO
CINEMA-4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-5	CORKY ROMANO
CINEMA-6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN

UNIWIDE METROMALL

(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1	THE OTHERS
2	CORKY ROMANO
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	AMERICAN ADOBO
5	LORD OF THE RINGS
6	MAHAL KITA . . .
7	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8	BURLESK KING

SM CENTERPOINT
7140322 -7161416

1	MAHAL KITA . . .
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	CORKY ROMANO
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6	BURLESK KING
7	THE OTHERS
8	ZOOLANDER
9	AMERICAN ADOBO
10	BUKO PANDAN

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	CORKY ROMANO
2	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3	ZOOLANDER
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	THE OTHERS
6	MAHAL KITA . . .
7	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8	LORD OF THE RINGS
9	AMERICAN ADOBO
10	MAHAL KITA . . .
11	BURLESK KING
12	BUKO PANDAN

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	THE OTHERS
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	ZOOLANDER
4	LORD OF THE RINGS
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7	ON THE LINE
8	BURLESK KING
9	MAHAL KITA . . .
10	CORKY ROMANO
11	GLASS HOUSE
12	AMERICAN ADOBO

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	THE OTHERS
3	LORD OF THE RINGS
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	CORKY ROMANO
6	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
7	BURLESK KING
8	ZOOLANDER
9	AMERICAN ADOBO
10	MAHAL KITA . . .
11	MAHAL KITA . . .
12	GLASS HOUSE

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9205452

1	THE OTHERS
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	MAHAL KITA . . .
4	ZOOLANDER
5	AMERICAN ADOBO
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
9	BURLESK KING
10	SPY GAME
11	BUKO PANDAN
12	CORKY ROMANO

SM SOUTHMALL
8068008 • 8066782

1	THE OTHERS
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	CORKY ROMANO
5	BURLESK KING
6	BUKO PANDAN
7	MAHAL KITA . . .
8	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
9	ZOOLANDER
10	AMERICAN ADOBO

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	LORD OF THE RINGS
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	GLASS HOUSE
4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5	BURLESK KING
6	AMERICAN ADOBO
7	SPY GAME
8	LORD OF THE RINGS

SM CITY ILOILO
3200422

1	MUSKETEERS
2	CLOSED
3	SPY GAME
4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5	EARTHQUAKE
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7	CLOSED
8	ON THE LINE

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	LORD OF THE RINGS
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	ZOOLANDER
4	AMERICAN ADOBO
5	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6	MAHAL KITA . . .

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8204975

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	THE OTHERS
3	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4	MAHAL KITA . . .

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8820805

1	AMERICAN ADOBO
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	MAHAL KITA . . .

SM CITY TUTUBAN
2514302

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	AMERICAN ADOBO
3	MAHAL KITA . . .
4	THE OTHERS

SM CITY DAVAO
2974004

1	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2	BURLESK KING
3	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4	WALANG IWANAN
5	AMERICAN AOBO
6	GLASS HOUSE

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM
18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1
2

SOON TO OPEN!
2 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

6389781-85

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

Atienza shows off renovated Liwasang Bonifacio

By Jerome Aning

A VISIBLY pleased Manila Mayor Lito Atienza yesterday morning gave City Hall reporters a guided tour of the renovated Liwasang Bonifacio, which he called a symbol of the "intensification" of the city's urban renewal program.

So pleased was the mayor that he announced that he would deliver his state of the city address on the morning of Feb. 1, the day the park would be formally reopened.

The inauguration will be capped by a free concert featuring tenors Nolyn Cabahug, Robert Seña and Lemuel dela Cruz. They will be joined by the world-renowned Manila Symphony Orchestra.

The once drab and dreary park, which used to be a haven for vendors, petty crooks and street gangs, a rendezvous for political demonstrators and an informal parking place for FX and buses, can now rival the Rizal Park as a recreation area.

The square is now bordered on both sides by rows of fully-grown royal palms. Both sides have been landscaped and planted with new plants and trees. The pathways are laid with cut stones.

The middle of the plaza has granite flooring and a new and large pedestal for the monument of Andres Bonifacio, after whom the park is named.

The bronze statue will be illuminated at night by three sets of halogen lamps on both sides, with five high-powered lamps per set.

At the back of the monument across the Central Post Office building is the enlarged main fountain bordered by dark gray marble. The movement of the water in the fountain will be synchronized with music, another innovation.

The west side of the plaza overlooking Intramuros has wooden park benches similar to the ones found in New York City's Central Park, as well as ones adorned with *calesa* wheels.

There is also a fountain whose water runs down stone steps dotted with plants. A sculpture of the Philippine eagle stands at the top.

The east side sports the same design, except that the fountain has a globe on top.

Seafood exporter in Philfoodexpo

GOOD news for busy working mothers. Seachamp International, Filipino-owned veteran exporter of gourmet seafood products, is bringing the rich bounty of the sea to the local market.

The company's export-quality processed and frozen seafood products will be showcased at the inaugural Philippine Food Expo (Philfoodexpo 2002) at the SM Megamall Hall this month.

Their flagship product line, Polar Brand, includes ready-to-serve gourmet seafood dishes.

Working mothers and young professionals may simply pop Seachamp's seafood fare into the microwave or frying pan to enjoy delicacies such as *rellenong bangus*, fish franks, breaded shrimp nuggets, *calamare* rings, fish fingers or mini crab cakes and more in just five minutes.

"The company understands the Filipno housewife's concern for providing varied and nutritious food to her family even after a long, hard day's work," explained Anna Marie Sy, operations manager and the creative mind behind Polar Brand's food development team.

In recognition of its strict adherence to international standards of quality assurance, Seachamp was awarded the much-coveted Golden Shell Award for Manufacturing Excellence by the Department of Trade and Industry (Philippines) in 1995.

Seachamp is also the same food manufacturing company responsible for providing shrimp patties to the Wendy's hamburger chain, fish fillets to A & W Restaurants and Miggy's, seafood balls to Padi's Point and frozen soups to Au Bon Pain outlets.

The Jan. 30-Feb. 3 Philfoodexpo 2002 will feature an exciting cross-section of food industry giants from farmer cooperatives, raw-material suppliers to important food retail distribution chains.

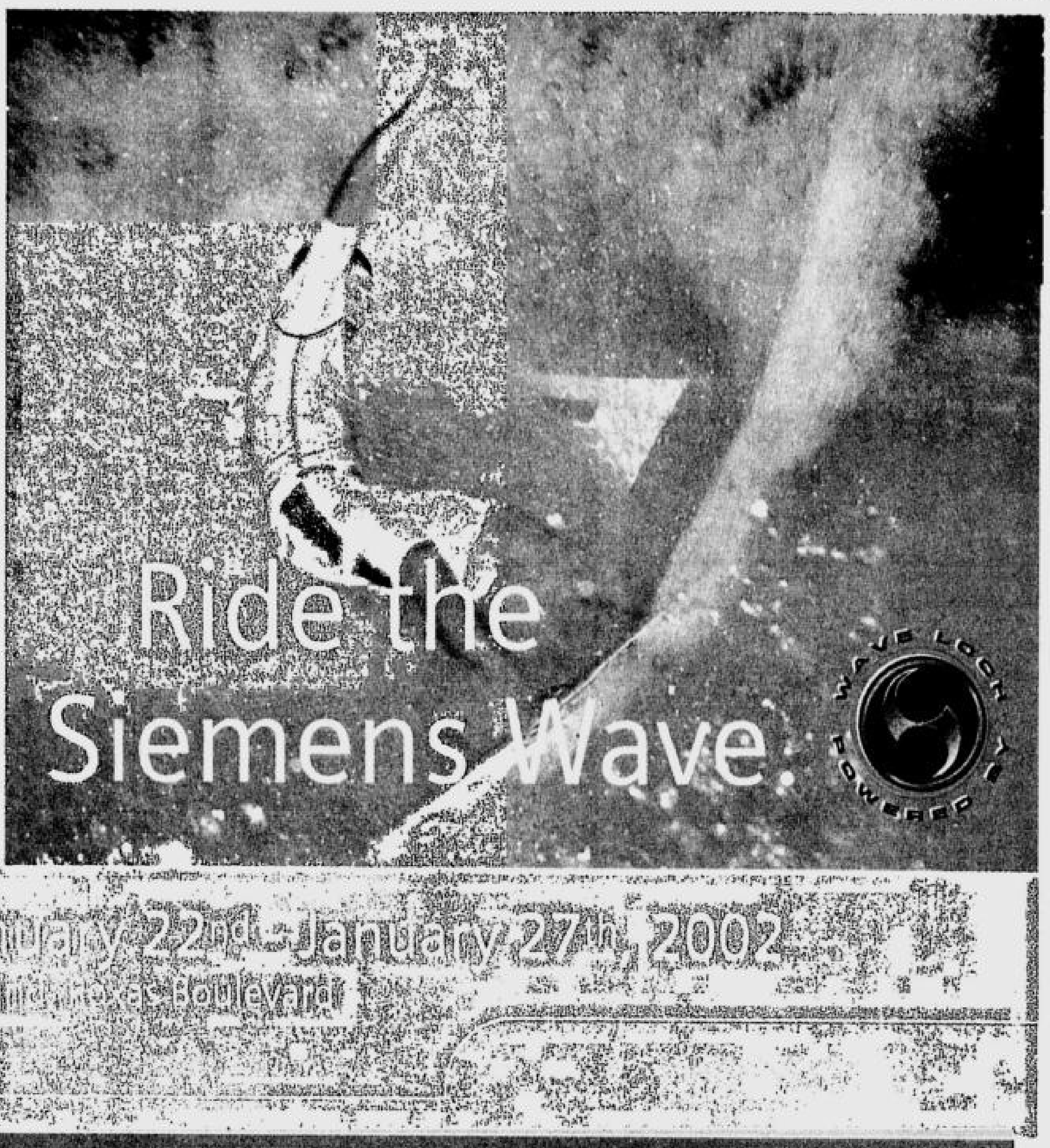
College prep seminars

MSA Academic Advancement Institute will hold a series of seminars for free in different schools in Metro Manila before the school year ends.

The MSA college prep seminars are three-hour sessions covering mental math, test-taking strategies and simulated entrance exams. Their purpose is to give third year high school students an overview of college entrance tests and to prepare them ahead of time.

MSA will also give out free copies of MSA seniors' guide to colleges and universities.

MSA teachers will conduct the seminars. For details, call 850-6550 or 850-6551 and look for Edward Soriano, or 925-75-44, 925-7216 or 434-3693 and look for Clarissa Rivero.



Ride the Siemens Wave.
WAVE LOCH POWERED

Manila, January 22nd - January 27th, 2002
Quirino Grandstand, Roxas Boulevard
City of Manila

SIEMENS mobile WAVE TOUR

The **Siemens Mobile Wave Tour** is the ultimate in urban sports innovation. Imagine being able to surf waves of up to 4m high at the Quirino Grandstand. Come and check out the **Siemens Mobile Wave Tour** and watch local and international surfers compete. You can even text your vote for the **"Funniest Ride"** or **"Best Trick"** contest. See you there!

22nd January (Tuesday, by Invitation Only)
8:30-11:00 PM Official Wave Launch

23rd & 24th January (Wednesday & Thursday)
1:00-3:00 PM Int'l. Surfers Exhibition/Local Surfers Training & "Bet the Wave"
4:00-6:00 PM Int'l. Surfers Exhibition/Local Surfers Training & "Bet the Wave"
7:00-9:00 PM Int'l. Sufers Wave Exhibition & "Funniest Ride/Best Trick Contest"
9:00-10:00 PM Special Performance by Groove Nation
[illegible]

25th January (Friday)
1:00-3:00 PM Int'l Surfers Exhibition & "Bet the Wave"
4:00-6:00 PM Local Competition Elimination and Finals
7:00-9:00 PM Int'l Qualification Competitions
9:00-10:30 PM Special Performance by Mulatto Band

26th January (Saturday)
9:00-11:00 AM Riding of the Local and Foreign Surfers exhibition
1:00-3:00 PM Mixed activities of Local and Foreign Surfers & "Bet the Wave"
4:00-6:00 PM Mixed activities of Local and Foreign Surfers & "Bet the Wave"
7:00-9:00 PM Finals Int'l Surfers Competition
9:00-10:30 PM Special Performance by Pido and Take One Band

27th January (Sunday)
9:00-11:00 AM Local Surfers exhibition
1:00-3:00 PM Int'l Surfers and Local Surfers Joint Exhibition & "Bet the Wave"
4:00-6:00 PM Int'l Surfers and Local Surfers Joint Exhibition & "Bet the Wave"
7:00-8:00 PM Closing of Pro Surfers Exhibition
8:00-9:30 PM Special Performance by Hyperbeat Band
9:30 PM Foam Party

Shuttle services available from 11 AM-11 PM at the CCP Complex going to the Quirino Grandstand.
(For SIEMENS Mobile Wave Tour ticket holders only.)

WOW Globe SMART Simply Amazing! TALK N TEXT touch mobile First Asia Mobile Inc. 88.3 MAGIC 89.9

Per DTI NCR Permit no. 3898, series of 2001

TALK TO THOUSANDS EVERYDAY!

Advertising in Libre reaches thousands of commuters!
Plus, thanks to its high pass-on readership, you reach
thousands of non-commuters as well. Available at MRT
and LRT stations, it's the free newspaper that provides
relevant and useful information. Articles are short and
easy to digest --- perfect for those on the go!
With Libre, advertisers are free to explore creative, non-traditional layouts and promotions! Call 897-88-08
to reserve a spot and make the market listen

The Best Things in Life Are LIBRE

Fake medicines can kill–DOH

By Vikkie Castro
Contributor

A BFAD inspector uncovers boxes of fake medicines during a raid in San Dionisio, Parañaque last year.

EVER wondered why, when you're sick, your medications don't seem to work even when you take them religiously? Or, having almost finished your antibiotics, the infection remains?

There are several reasons to explain these, according to the Department of Health: You don't stick to the regular dosage of the medicine, or you may not be taking your medicine on time.

Or, the drug you bought may be substandard, or fake.

Statistics show that about P150 million to P300 million worth of fake drugs are confiscated every year by Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) enforcement teams. The amount represents merely less than a percent of the estimated P50-billion drug trade in the country.

The menace of counterfeit drugs is real and yet few cases are reported because people in general are not aware that fake medicines are circulating in the country.

By definition, fake drugs are either illegally imported, unregistered drugs, or plain substandard, adulterated and under-dosed drugs manufactured locally or elsewhere. Unregistered counterfeit drugs may be genuine, while substandard drugs contain the active ingredients but on a low dosage.

Of the total counterfeit drugs confiscated by the BFAD last year, 80 percent were unregistered drugs while 20 percent were classified as sub-standard.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit has said that counterfeit drugs have contributed nothing but a further dent on the economy and are practically useless for health use.

"Operations in counterfeit drugs affect industry sales," Dayrit said. "Fake drugs also give quality medicines a bad name. There may also be impurities that can cause allergies or resistance to the medicine. The worst case is that the patient doesn't get well."

The origin of fake drugs can be traced to our own backyard and to some of our Asian neighbors like China and Thailand. According to reports from BFAD, about 80 percent of counterfeit drugs are imported and not registered because they are smuggled into the country usually through Mindanao and Northern Luzon. From the hands of distributors, drugs are placed in drugstores with the help of walk-in salesmen who offer cheaper prices for the fake drugs.

Last year, the BFAD closed down 10 pharmacies, and this year eight, for selling unregistered fake medicines. Although the BFAD confiscated the medicines, it was unable to identify the source.

Smuggled medicines are generally attractive to the consumers because they're genuine yet cheaper. The bigger problem, however, is that substandard medicines which are totally ineffective are positioned by unscrupulous traders as genuine. It is even suspected that huge financial resources are available to sustain this type of illegal operations so that even the printing of the medicine boxes and packaging has been perfected.

"A trained eye will find fake lot numbers and batch numbers—serial numbers used by drug companies for distribution and safety inspection purposes," Dayrit said.

Preventing the illegal entry of fake drugs at the airports and piers is one way of stopping counterfeit drugs from farther hurting our economy, Dayrit said. The problem of fake drugs is also a customs issue because most of the goods are brought in by air in small quantities, which can be declared for personal use.

Dayrit has stepped up the DOH drug information campaign to stop the menace. "We can stop the proliferation of counterfeit activities by intensifying public information," he said. "We need to communicate to people how to avoid getting fooled. We have used advisories through radio and TV but it needs to be more persistent. There are ways of detecting but you really need a trained eye."

He offers three basic tips.

- Buy medicines only from reputable drugstores.
- Inspect the packaging which indicates the expiry date, manufacturing date and address of manufacturer, for future reference.
- Read insert literatures to understand more about the drug that you are taking. Patient literatures or labels contain vital information about the drug formulation, its application and its known side effects.

Dayrit also warned: "If an antibiotic is taken and the infection is not arrested, you should be suspicious. If you buy loose tablets, and therefore there is no packaging or literature, make sure to ask the pharmacist about the medicine. If there are no chain drugstores in your area, make sure the small *botica* you go to has a license to sell medicines and a pharmacist to handle inquiries."

The DOH, BFAD and the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) have joined hands to make the public aware of the dangers of fake medicines.

Consumers may file reports of outlets or persons selling fake medicines at the BFAD office, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang Muntinlupa, or call the BFAD hotlines, 807-8275 or 807-0725.

HOME RADIO, targeting the market...in Cebu!

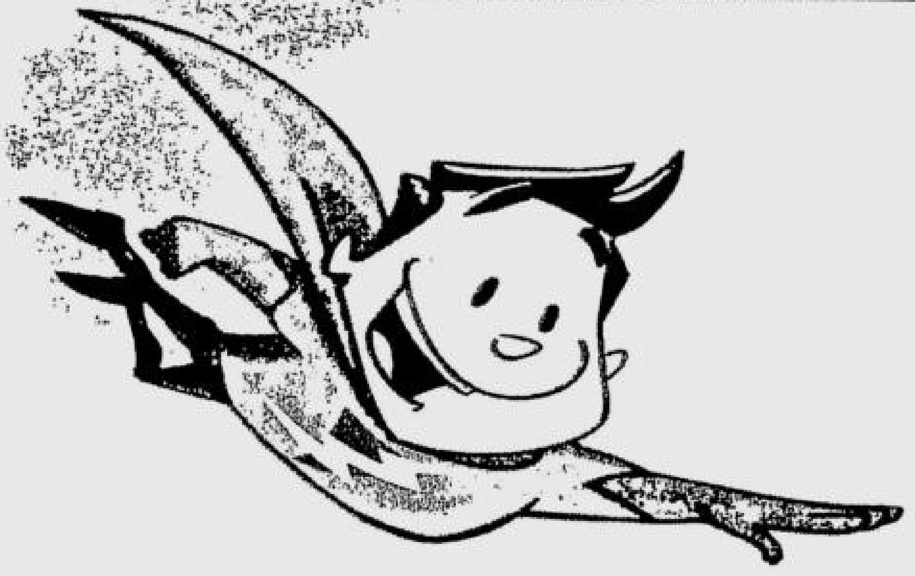
Aliw Broadcasting Corporation's HOME RADIO FM NETWORK unleashed colorful events during last week's celebration of the SINULOG. Manila's HOME RADIO 97dot9 AND Cebu City's HOME RADIO 106dot7 raised the roof in this colorful island with strategic marketing events that brought to its clientele no less than the ever desired TARGET MARKET (a phrase not so long ago was the "in" thing in Cebu, Ad Congress).

For the YOUTH MARKET: defined as school age (elementary and high school), further defined as the market of fruit juices, candies and brands aspired for as "in" in school campuses.... There was the Little Miss Sinulog last January 18 held at the SM City Cebu and the IQ CHALLENGE Grand Finals held last January 19 at the Ayala Center - Cebu. The Little Miss beauties awed the audience with skills and talents of the future Cebuana Lawyers, doctors, engineers and other "and gusto kong maging"..ambitions. The IQ challenge was flocked by the province's top public and private elementary and high schools. In the venue, each contending school brought in their "hakot" cheering squad, well, otherwise known as "moral support". MARKET, TARGETED by Zesto juice drinks.

For the ADULT MARKET : defined as health and body conscious, further defined as social players, party goers and patrons of good food..there was the HOME RADIO 2k and 10k FUN RUN last January 19. Kicking off at the break of dawn from the Capitol grounds, participants were all sweat around the major thorougfares of Cebu. An even hotter event unfolded in the afternoon at the Mango Square with HOME RADIO's BODY BUILDING COMPETITION. MARKET, TARGETTED by Red Bull Energy Drinks, Mega Sardines, Dimettap and Rexona.
The NIGHT MARKET (No, not in Hong Kong): defined as the "booze" crowd who love great (loud) music, yuppies and teeners alike, the bubbly audience and the market that loves to party all night...there was the HOME RADIO STREET PARTY at the Mango Square along Mango Avenue. With wild crowd partying...MARKET, TARGETED by San Miguel Beer.

With defined and strengthened listenership, Home Radio is heading for a fully loaded marketing calendar this horse's year.

ADVT.



SUPER IMMUNITY FROM SUPER SUSTAGEN

Get everything you've always loved in Sustagen plus more!
NEW SUSTAGEN now has excellent levels of Zinc, Vitamins A & B6 that help produce antibodies and act as your kids' invisible protection. These make your kids less prone to illnesses that may be caused by germs, viruses, bacteria or sudden changes in temperature.

Now with NEW SUSTAGEN, go ahead, let your kids be kids.

SUSTAGEN
Junior
STAGE 3
1-3 YEARS
POWDER
SUSTAGEN
KID
3+ YEARS

Manila to cut half of amusement tax on local films

AFTER a year of sluggish box office returns, the local movie industry will finally be getting a break—at least in Manila.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said the city government intends to reduce by half the 30 percent amusement tax levied on ticket sales for local films shown in Manila theaters.

The reduction will be done through an ordinance authored by Councilors Miles Roces and Boy Laxa. Kim Atienza, 5th District councilor and city council president pro tempore, will file the measure next week.

This means a 15-percent amusement tax will be imposed for ticket sales of local films shown in city theaters.

"This is our own way of helping out the local movie industry," Atienza said.

Atienza said the 50 percent cut in the amusement tax for local films will probably mean less revenues for city government, but they hope this will be offset by higher box-office returns, which will mean added revenues for the city.

"This measure is also meant to encourage local filmmakers to come up with more quality films," Atienza pointed out. "This will increase viewership and income for local filmmakers and additional revenues for the city government."

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

"FROM THE PRODUCER OF "ENEMY OF THE STATE" AND THE DIRECTOR OF "GLADIATOR"

LEAVE NO MAN BEHIND

BLACK HAWK DOWN

sony.com/BlackHawkDown

REVOLUTION STUDIOS

All star cast!

"The best war movie I've seen!"
-- Larry King, CNN

From Ridley Scott, acclaimed director of GLADIATOR and Jerry Bruckheimer, producer of PEARL HARBOR comes a war epic voted by *Time Magazine* as one of the best films of the year.

The all-star cast includes the brightest names in young Hollywood: Josh Hartnett of PEARL HARBOR, Ewan McGregor of MOULIN ROUGE and Orlando Bloom, the well-loved Legolas in LORD OF THE RINGS.

Columbia Pictures' BLACK HAWK DOWN is the true story of elite American soldiers on a mission to stop a ruthless Somalian warlord in 1993.

Don't miss this must-see movie event, described by CNN's Larry King as "the best war movie I've ever seen."

OPENS JANUARY 30 !

NOW SHOWING

WHO ARE THEY?

WANDERING SOULS? RESTLESS GHOSTS? DISTURBED SPIRITS?

YOU CAN'T SEE THEM... BUT SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL FIND YOU TO REVEAL THEMSELVES!

NICOLE KIDMAN

THE OTHERS

Evil has many faces!

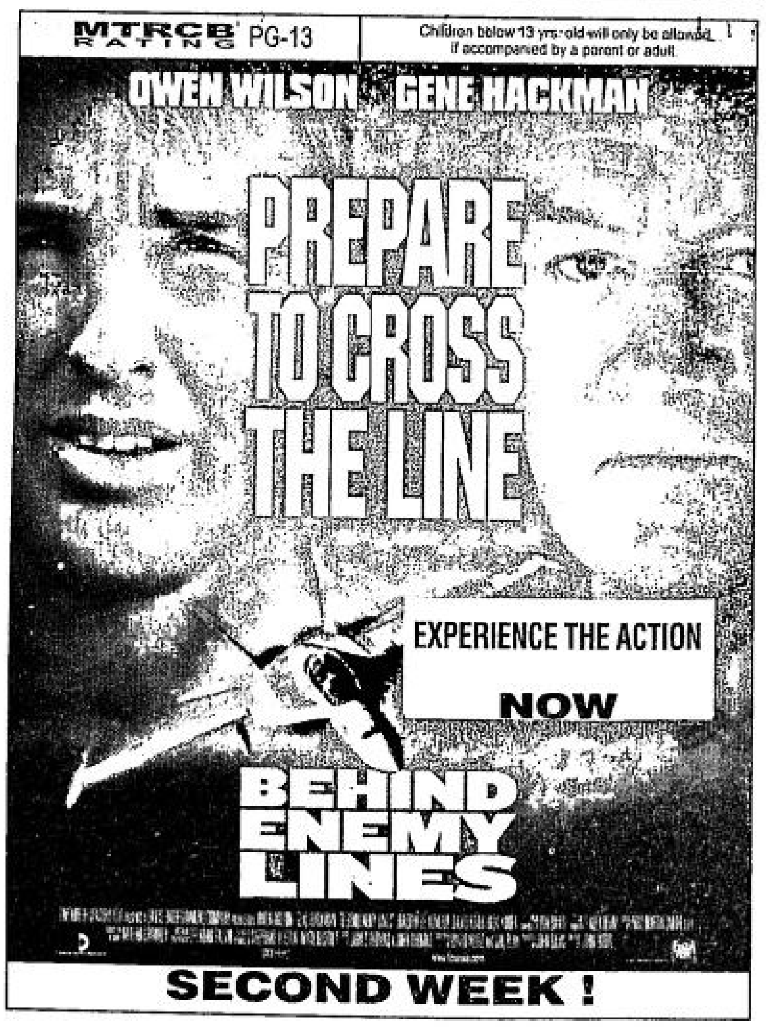
MTRCB RATING PG-13

DIMENSION FILMS CANAL + Solar FILMS INC.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

LORD OF THE RINGS - GP 11:40, 3:00, 6:20, 9:40	OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00, 10:40	AMERICAN ADOBO - R18 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
BEHIND ENEMY LINES - P13 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	CORKY ROMANO - P13 12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20	OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 11:20, 1:45, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00, 11:20

Matinee, P80, Mon.-Fri.,11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.


MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

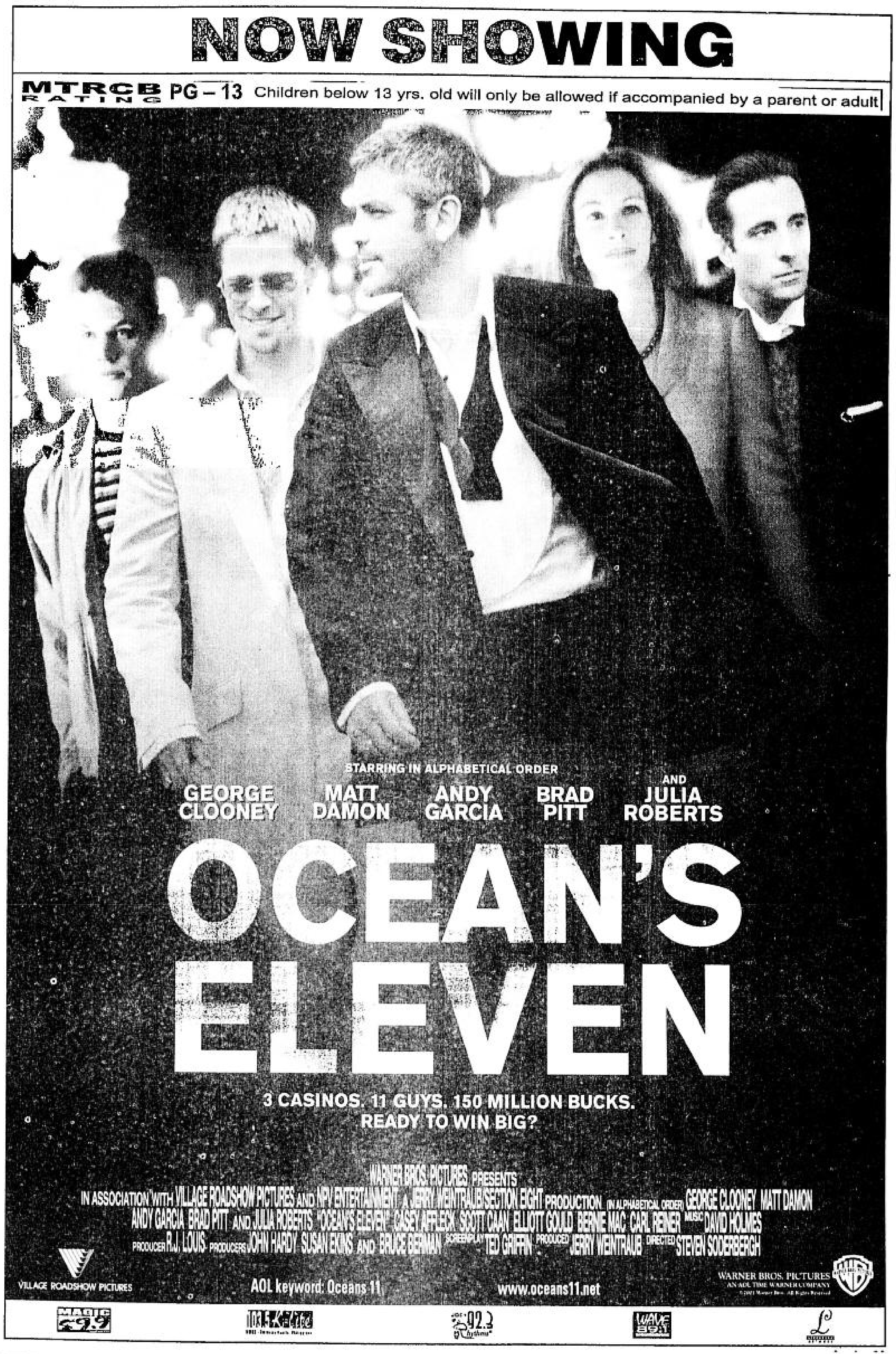
OWEN WILSON GENE HACKMAN

PREPARE TO CROSS THE LINE

EXPERIENCE THE ACTION NOW

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

SECOND WEEK !


NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG – 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

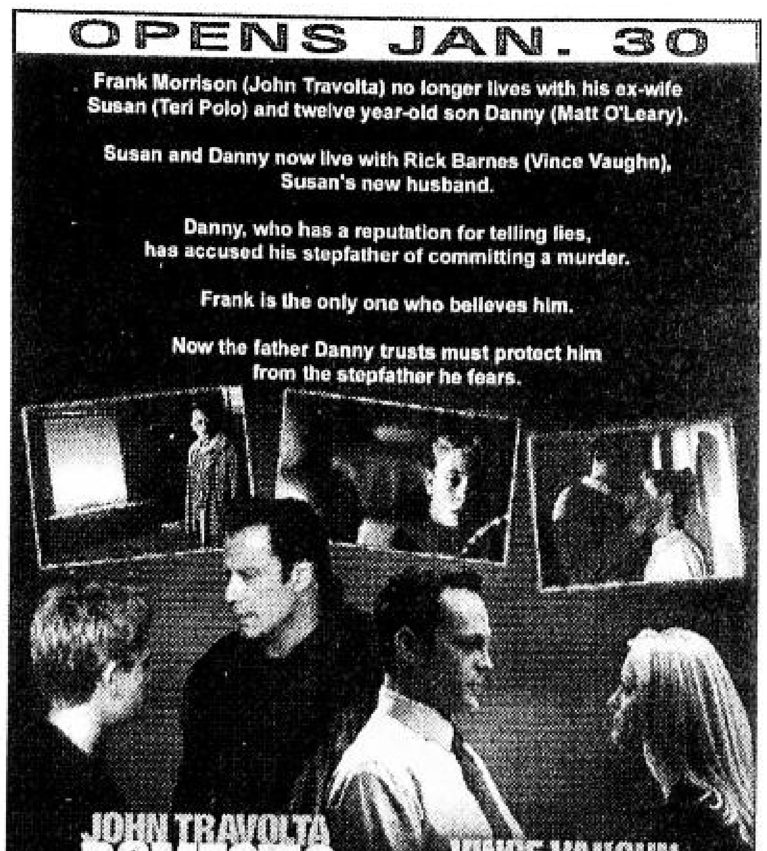
STARRING IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER
GEORGE CLOONEY MATT DAMON ANDY GARCIA BRAD PITT AND JULIA ROBERTS

OCEAN'S ELEVEN

3 CASINOS. 11 GUYS. 150 MILLION BUCKS.
READY TO WIN BIG?

WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES AND NPV ENTERTAINMENT A JERRY WEINTRAUB/SECTION EIGHT PRODUCTION (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) GEORGE CLOONEY MATT DAMON ANDY GARCIA BRAD PITT AND JULIA ROBERTS "OCEAN'S ELEVEN" CASEY AFFLECK SCOTT CAAN ELLIOTT GOULD BERNIE MAC CARL REINER MUSIC DAVID HOLMES PRODUCER R.J. LOUIS PRODUCERS JOHN HARDY SUSAN EKINS AND BRUCE BERMAN SCREENPLAY TED GRIFFIN PRODUCED JERRY WEINTRAUB DIRECTED STEVEN SODERBERGH

VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES AOL keyword: Oceans 11 www.oceans11.net WARNER BROS. PICTURES AN AOL TIME WARNER COMPANY


OPENS JAN. 30

Frank Morrison (John Travolta) no longer lives with his ex-wife Susan (Teri Polo) and twelve year-old son Danny (Matt O'Leary).

Susan and Danny now live with Rick Barnes (Vince Vaughn), Susan's new husband.

Danny, who has a reputation for telling lies, has accused his stepfather of committing a murder.

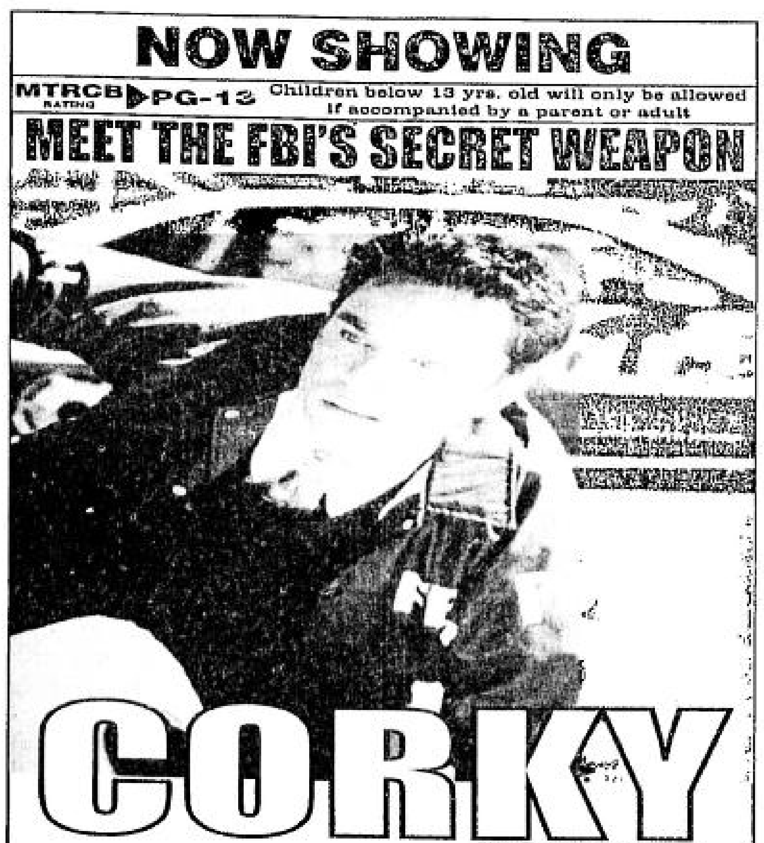
Frank is the only one who believes him.

Now the father Danny trusts must protect him from the stepfather he fears.

JOHN TRAVOLTA VINCE VAUGHN DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

SKYFILMS STUDIO 23

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.


NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

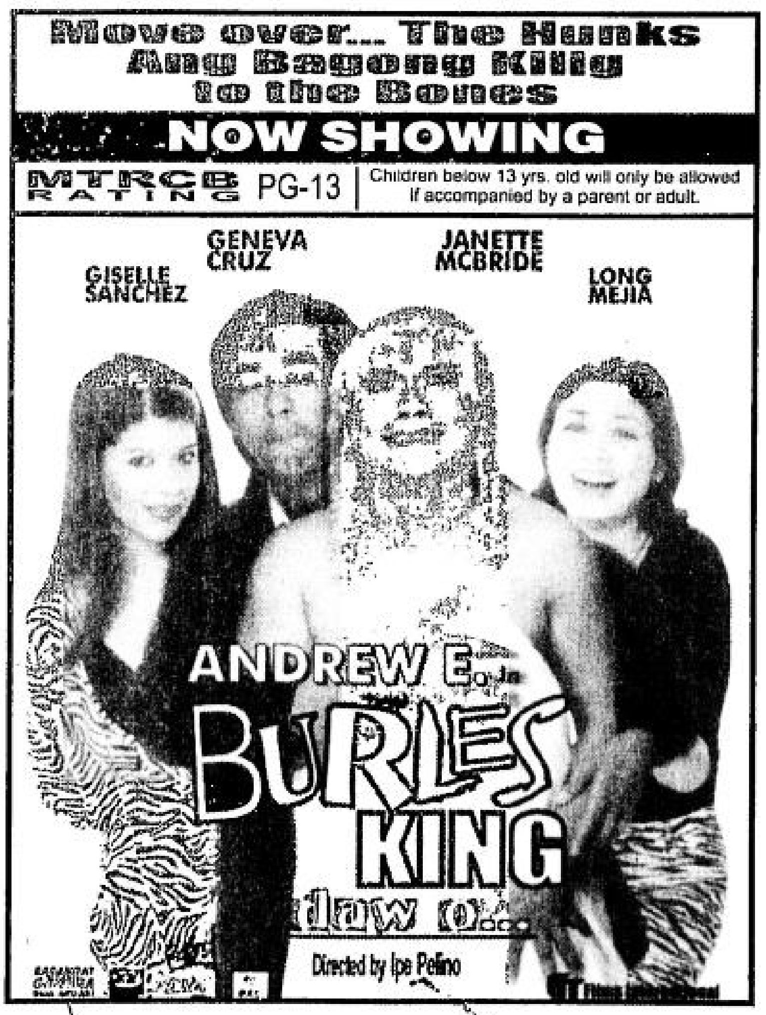
MEET THE FBI'S SECRET WEAPON

CORKY ROMANO

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES PRESENTS A ROBERT SIMONDS PRODUCTION CHRIS KATTAN "CORKY ROMANO" PETER BERG CHRIS PENN RICHARD ROUNDTREE VINESSA SHAW WITH FRED WARD AND PETER FALK MUSIC RANDY EDELMAN SUPERVISOR LISA BROWN EDITOR TOM BRONSON EDITOR ALAN CODY PRODUCTION DESIGNER PETER POLITANOFF DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY STEVEN BERNSTEIN, A.S.C. CO-PRODUCER TRACEY TRENCH PRODUCED BY ROBERT SIMONDS PRODUCER IRA SHUMAN WRITTEN BY DAVID GARRETT & JASON WARD DIRECTED BY ROB PRITTS

Touchstone Pictures

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


Move over.... The Hunks Ang Bagong King to the Bones

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

GISELLE SANCHEZ GENEVA CRUZ JANETTE MCBRIDE LONG MEJIA

ANDREW E. Jr.

BURLES KING daw o...

Directed by Ipe Pelino

Job creation, food security in waste management

By Joey C. Papa
Contributor

JOB CREATION, food security—these are the byproducts of ecological waste management, once government adopts it as part of a national strategy to develop the economy.

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) of the Department of Labor and Employment believes that Republic Act No. 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, which President Macapagal-Arroyo signed into law on Jan. 25, 2001, may adequately address the problem of poverty.

Tesda is now highlighting the potentials of the informal sector—the unemployed, underemployed, the newcomers in the labor force that include high school and college dropouts, grade school graduates, displaced workers, indigenous peoples—-who will make up the "critical mass of entrepreneurs," according to Tesda Director General Lucita S. Lazo.

Already, Tesda has launched its "Blue is Beautiful" movement to redirect people's values toward full appreciation of, and greater preference for, the blue-collar fields.

In particular, Tesda seeks to attract more students and out-of-school youths to enrol in technology and vocational courses.

The "Blue is Beautiful" campaign has a complementing movement called "Let's Go," which stands for Leading Enterprises Towards Globalizing Organizations.

It says the movement's aim can be achieved by linking up those educated and trained in the technical and vocational fields with the appropriate profitable enterprises.

To achieve this, Tesda needs to reinvent itself as the lead government agency in advocating technical and vocational education, Lazo said.

Tesda must be able to communicate to the public—particularly students, out-of-school youths, parents—the value of quality technology and vocational education and training, in pursuing personal, community and national growth.

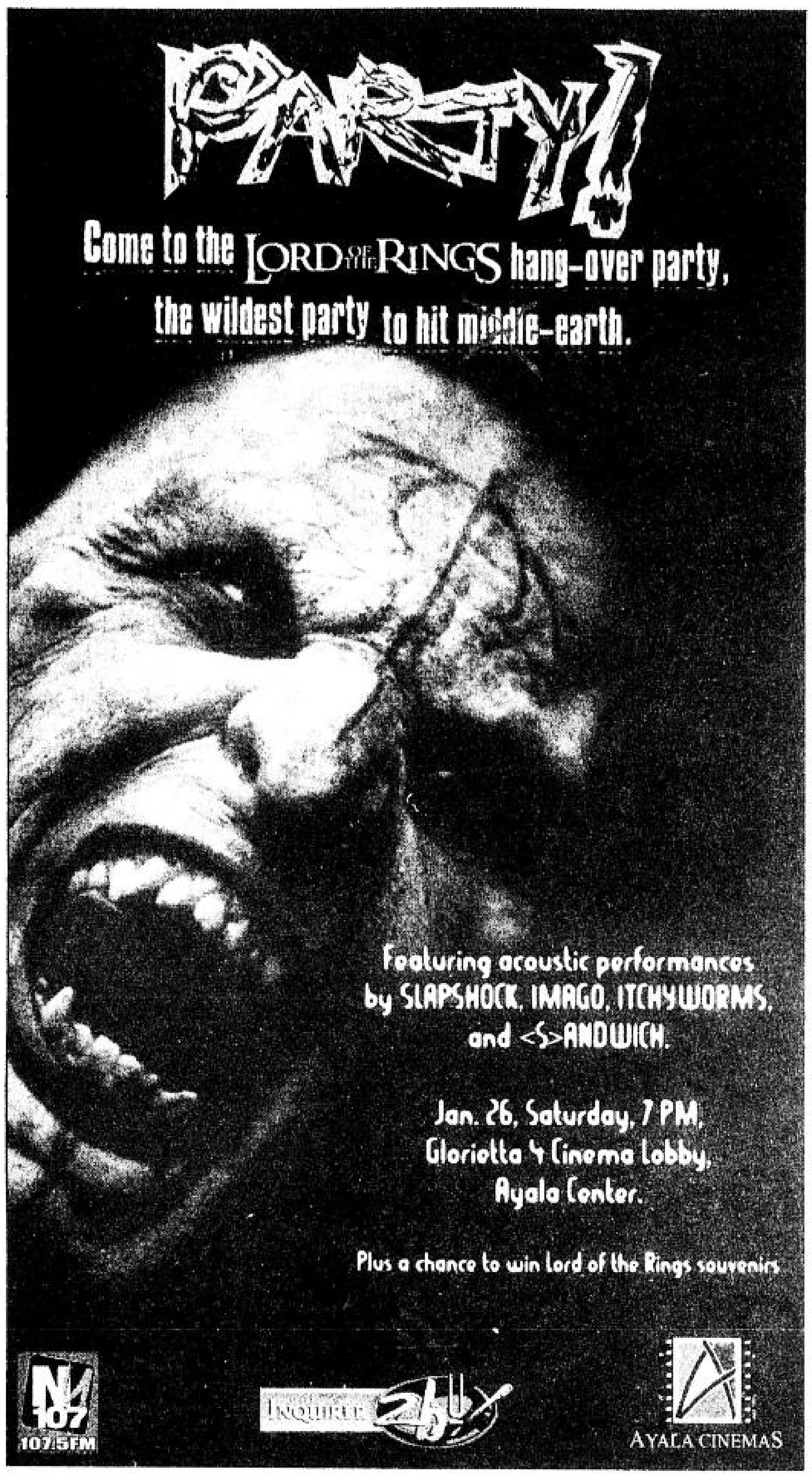
Tesda must also help develop a quality-conscious culture that is based on the principle of ecologically and economically sound growth.

Lazo said Tesda is refining the strategies for a comprehensive ecological orientation into their technical and vocational courses.

Luz Sabas of the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines is pleased with Tesda's thrust.

"Quality-consciousness should be founded on an ecologically and economically sound orientation and environment because we have to have food security," Sabas said. "We have to turn farm workers into entrepreneurs.

Sabas said her movement is now concentrating "on the countryside, where we can teach the farmers to revive their soil, clean the waters and air for increased production."


PARTY!

Come to the LORD OF THE RINGS hang-over party, the wildest party to hit middle-earth.

Featuring acoustic performances by SLAPSHOCK, IMAGO, ITCHYWORMS, and <S>ANDWICH.

Jan. 26, Saturday, 7 PM, Glorietta 4 Cinema Lobby, Ayala Center.

Plus a chance to win Lord of the Rings souvenirs.

NU 107 107.5FM INQUIRER 25 AYALA CINEMAS

ALL SET NA ANG LAHAT...

HANDA NA BA KAYO?!

Leandro Muñoz
Rafael Rosell IV
Jolina Magdangal

kung ikaw ay isang panaginip

DIRECTED BY WENN V. DERAMAS STAR CINEMA

SA JAN. 30!

LISTEN TO WRR 101.9 & DZMM 630 TO WIN PREMIERE NIGHT TICKETS, PASSES & POSTERS.

TEXT "STARCINEMA" (FOR GLOBE 2331 FOR SMART 245) TO WIN AN AUTOGRAPHED POSTER & 1 JOLINA CD.

Is that a fly in his brandy?

By Nancy Carvajal

LOUIE CRUZ had been drinking Fundador for over 20 years. Imagine his surprise when he found a "black thing" that suspiciously looks like a fly in his favorite brandy.

According to a report from the Bureau of Food and Drugs, a copy of which was obtained by the Inquirer, the thing was described as "a black insect-like object with wings and legs intact; body approximately 7 mm long as viewed inside the bottle."

Catherine P. Cruz and Christmasita A. Oblepios of the BFAD conducted the analysis and submitted the report. It was noted by a Rizalina A. Opinion, from the BFAD's laboratory services division.

Cruz filed a complaint with the BFAD against Fundador's authorized distributor, Allied Domecq, which also distributes Tanduay Rum.

The BFAD said it was the first time a complaint of this nature was filed against Allied Domecq.

Cruz told BFAD officials that he bought his six bottles of Fundador at Ralph's Liquor store in Clark, Pampanga in November.

When he filed the complaint, Cruz said he was upset over the initial reaction of Allied Domecq personnel when he first reported the "thing" in the bottle.

"At first I was given the runaround," Cruz said. "They did not even bother to ask my name when I called up their office to report the dead fly."

Cruz also said it was only after he made countless calls and sent several fax messages to Allied Domecq that the firm took him seriously.

"I am not after any material gain, I want to know why the insect is there and I want the public to be aware," he said.

Allied Domecq national operations president Harvey Tan then offered to send the bottle to Reading Scientific Services Ltd. in the United Kingdom for an independent analysis of the object in the bottle.

"(Reading Scientific) carries out independent evaluation and forensic analysis for a wide range of companies and are used to provide forensic evidence in court cases," Tan said in his letter to Cruz.

Later, Cruz approached the BFAD ad requested the agency to conduct an investigation.

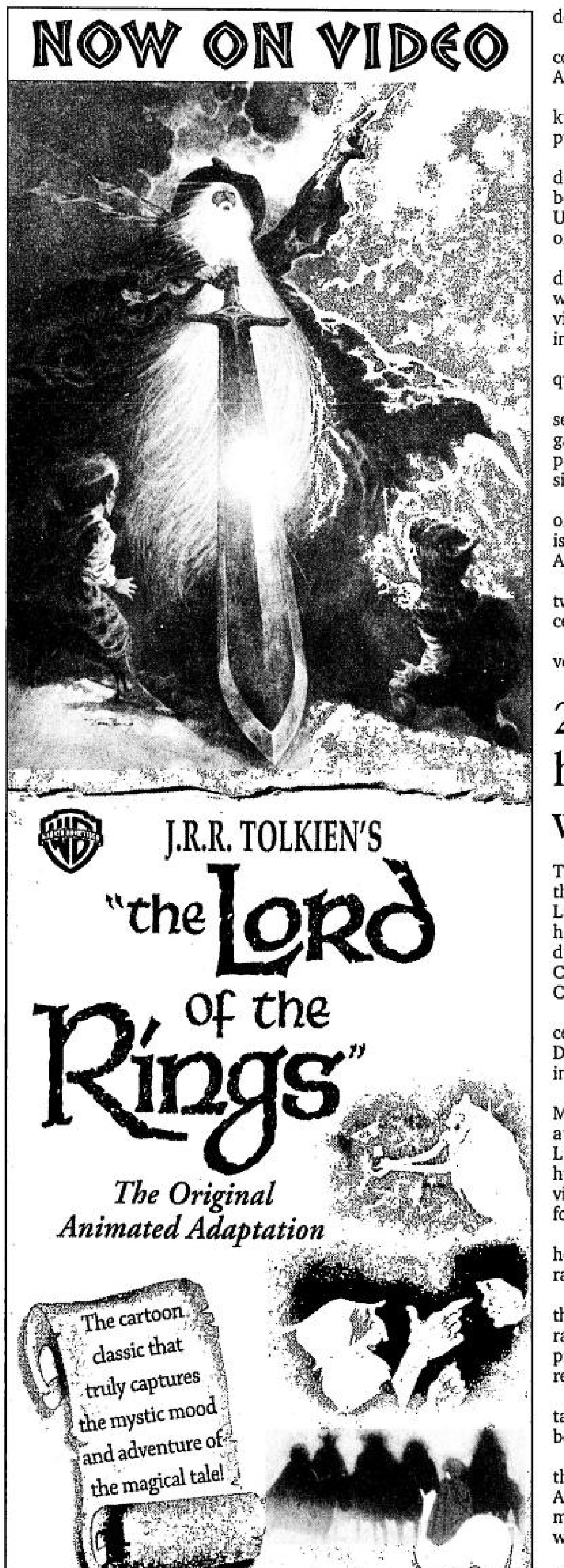
Ireneo M. Galicia, the bureau's chief counsel, said the BFAD can make the initial investigation to determine if the bottle has been tampered with and determine exactly what is inside the bottle.

Galicia said the BFAD receive 30 to 40 cases of consumer complaints every month. But this is the first time a complaint was filed against Allied Domeqc.

"We always encourage compromise between the complainant and the company concerned," Galicia told the INQUIRER.

Galicia added the bureau has a group of investigators who see enforce BFAD regulations.

WHAT is that 'insect-like' object doing in a bottle of brandy? Not the backstroke, that's for sure. ROGER. MARGALLO


NOW ON VIDEO

J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S "the Lord of the Rings"

The Original Animated Adaptation

The cartoon classic that truly captures the mystic mood and adventure of the magical tale!

2 more Las Piñas health centers win DOH award

THE DEPARTMENT of Health again presented the prestigious Sentrong Sigla award to two Las Piñas health centers for having the best health facilities and program in the country, during a simple ceremony on Jan. 24 at the Commission for Health Development Training Center in Mandaluyong City.

Barangay T.S. Cruz and Talon Cuatro health centers have been added to the list of 11 other DOH-certified "Sentrong Sigla" health centers in Las Piñas City.

As Imelda T. Aguilar, wife of Las Piñas City Mayor Vergel "Nene" Aguilar, accepted the award from DOH-NCR Director David J. Lozada Jr., she vowed to support her husband's commitment in making health services more accessible to the people, especially for the city's poor residents.

Las Piñas has a city-wide network of modern health and dental centers equipped with laboratory facilities and equipment.

Mayor Aguilar expressed his gratitude for the recognition, saying it will serve as an inspiration for the city government to further improve its provision of health services for city residents.

Aguilar added that the awards are manifestations of his desire to give the residents the best health services.

Aside from modernizing and upgrading all the city's 28 health centers and its services, Aguilar also prioritized the construction of modern Lying-In and Maternity Centers, where women can avail of the services for free.

Sentrong Sigla award is a joint project of the Department of Health and the John Hopkins University Hospital in Maryland, USA, to encourage local government units to improve its health services and programs.

Iwagayway ang
gawang Pilipino.
BEST BEFORE :
INGREDIENTS : Water, Refined Sugar, Orange Con... ...rates, Citric Acid, Vitamin C, Xanthan Gum,
Be... Carotene (Pro-Vitamin A), Natural and Nature... ...ficial Flavors, Sodium Benzoate, Potassium Sorbate
INSERT STRAW HERE
NEW!
QUICK PUNCH
DOY PACK ™
ZEST-O®
orange juice drink
WITH VITAMINS A & C
CONTAINS NATURAL ORANGE JUICE!™
NON-CARBONATED
NO ARTIFICIAL COLOR
NET CONTENTS
200 ML
4 804888 800006
Manufactured by: [redacted] Corporation, Marilao, Bulacan, Philippines
The No.1 Juice Drink
Ang kinabukasan ng bayan ay nasa iyong mga kamay.
BUY PINOY

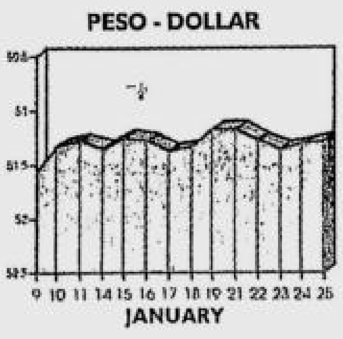
BUSINESS

Raul O. Marcelo, Editor ■ Corrie S. Narisma, Assistant Editor

Budget deficit tops target at ₱147B

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



GRAPHS BY ROBERT ANDRES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

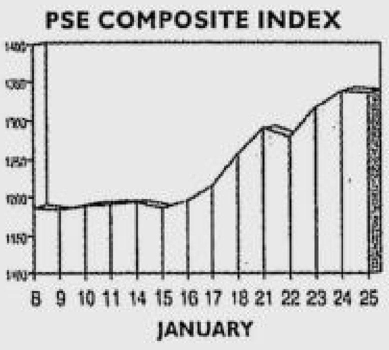
₱51.295 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Jan. 25, 2002

¥134.68 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Jan. 25, 2002

GOLD: $279/279.50
per ounce Hong Kong, Jan. 25, 2002

STOCK MARKET

Stocks dip



(See stock market report on Page B3)

SHARES took a breather yesterday, ending slightly lower, as some investors opted to cash in gains made on selected stocks over the past few days, traders said.

They added, however, that overall sentiment toward the market and the economy remained upbeat and the correction was likely to be short-lived.

"We are taking a little bit of a breather and hopefully it gives a chance for investors to take some profits, to reassess the market and then come back later," United Coconut Planters Bank Trust fund manager Vanessa Lim said.

Traders also pointed out that many investors were switching out of some of the buoyant large caps into second and third liners while

STOCKS/ B3

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE GOVERNMENT overshot its 2001 budget deficit target by only 1.4 percent, a margin the government said bodes well for its plan to lower the deficit this year.

The deficit of P147.02 billion, against a target of P145 billion, was within the margin of error for a government with a track record of overshooting its deficit targets significantly, analysts said.

"We are very pleased with the deficit number for the full year 2001. This clearly indicates our ability to manage the fiscal position of government . . . This bodes well for our expectations for 2002," Finance Secretary Jose Camacho said in a statement.

Officials previously said the 2001 deficit was likely to be near P147 billion. The government is targeting a deficit of P130 billion this year.

Total revenue collections hit P563.73 billion, exceeding targets by 1.1 percent but customs collections were more than P8.8 billion lower than programmed because of the drop in trade volume, the Department of Finance said in a statement.

Expenditures hit P710.75 billion or 1.07 percent higher than programmed, the department said.

Collections of the bureaus of Internal Revenue (BIR) and the Treasury exceeded their 2001 targets but the Bureau of Customs realized lower than programmed collections because of a drop in trade.

The BIR's collections reached P388.679 billion, higher by P622 million than the programmed P388.057 billion. The Treasury bureau realized an income of P46.413 billion, almost double the target of P24.883 billion.

Privatization receipts were weak in 2001, falling P8.827 billion below the target of P10 billion. The government failed to auction several state assets due to poor market conditions.

Among the assets the government failed to sell last year were its 10-percent stake in power distributor Manila Electric Co., media firm Intercontinental Broadcasting Co., and a 90-percent stake in tollway operator Philippine National Construction Co.

Expenditures for the year reached P710.755 billion, higher by P7.537 billion than the programmed level. This was despite savings from interest payments worth P6.767 billion, the statement said. It did not indicate where the savings came from.

The total deficit included the settlement of around P62 billion of accounts payable from 2000. The government expects its payables at the end of 2001 "will be slightly less" than the 2000 level, the statement said. ***With Inquirer wire reports***

iBank's Sy seen to be named PNB president

By Elena R. Torrijos

SY

INTERNATIONAL Exchange Bank chair Ramon Sy has agreed to become president of beleaguered Philippine National Bank, a source familiar with the matter said.

Sy would soon file his resignation from iBank, possibly on the day of the signing of a memorandum of agreement between the government and tobacco magnate Lucio Tan for the rehabilitation of PNB, the source said.

The signing should have been held yesterday but was postponed to Feb. 8, when Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho would have returned from a trip to New York where he would be joining President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The government refused to confirm or deny Sy's acceptance of the PNB post and Sy himself could not be reached yesterday for comment.

Sy and Philippine Bank of Communications president Isidro Alcantara were the two bankers nominated by the government to be PNB president. Tan, PNB's majority shareholder, had the right to choose the winning candidate for the post.

Norberto Nazareno, president of state-owned Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp., said the government was still discussing with the candidates.

Sy was former chair of United Coconut Planters Bank before he, together with stockbroker Wilson Sy and property developer Jerry Lanuza, set up iBank several years ago.

The veteran banker is expected to divest his shares from iBank before assuming the presidency of PNB.

Under the MOA to be signed next month, the government would convert P7.8 billion of

IBANKS/ B2

NOW, YOU CAN'T HELP BUT PICTURE YOURSELF IN YOUR FIRST GERMAN CAR.
OPEL

Prices start from ₱ 785,000*

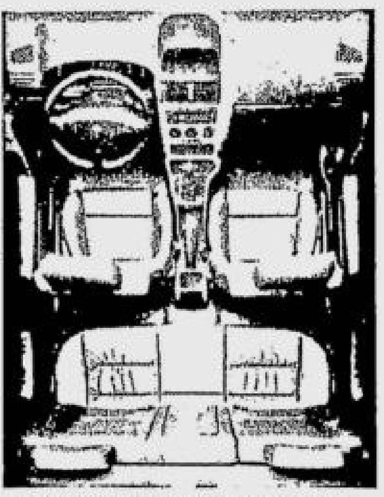
THE OPEL ASTRA

OPEL ASTRA	Option 1 Cash Discount	Option 2 Leather Seats/ Irmscher Console	Regular MSRP
Sedan M/T	* ₱ 785,000	₱ 835,000	₱ 835,000
Sedan A/T	₱ 835,000	₱ 885,000	₱ 885,000

PHOTO MAY VARY FROM ACTUAL UNITS AVAILABLE

Because now, we've made it even more desirable for you to drive home your very own German engineered, German built Opel Astra. This irresistible offer gives you two choices: enjoy a special discounted price of as low as ₱785,000; or, pay the regular price and receive luscious leather seats and a sexy silver Irmscher console at no extra cost. Hurry! This promo lasts until January 31, 2002.

Your first German car awaits you at GM AutoWorld today!



Irmscher Silver Console and Genuine Leather Seats

See the Opel Astra at
www.generalmotors.com.ph

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2307 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 843-0217 to 20 / 843-0228
814-0803 / 814-0838

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-8001, 415-8878
Fax No.: 372-8008

GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Fax No.: 535-4937 / 535-4935

GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
San Fernando-Gapan Rd., San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel No.: (45) 963-0888
Fax No.: (45) 963-1333

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel. No.: (32) 234-0426
Fax No.: (32) 231-7760

GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

GM AutoWorld

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0034 Series of 2002

CARGO HANDLING

PPA suspends 10% rate hike

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE PHILIPPINE Ports Authority has suspended for 15 days the 10-percent across-the-board increase in cargo handling fees it implemented on Jan 12.

The order was contained in a memorandum circular issued by PPA general manager Alfonso G. Cusi to port district managers, shipping lines, importers and exporters, and cargo handling operators.

In the memorandum, Cusi said the 15-day rate increase suspension was aimed at giving port users enough time to bring up their concerns about the increase.

The rate increase this year was opposed by the Coalition for Shipping and Ports Modernization that also called for a rollback of the first 10-percent increase effected early last year. The coalition claimed the increase was implemented even before cargo handlers and shippers could submit their position papers.

The increase implemented on Jan. 12 was the fourth adjustment ordered by PPA in four consecutive years.

The CSPM spokesperson Vicente Gambito, in an interview, claimed the PPA board increased the rates despite the objections from port users.

Cora Curay, president of the Distribution Management Association of the Philippines, a coalition member, said in a statement that members of her organization would likely pass on the cargo rate increase to consumers.

DMAP has 80 members including Coco-Cola Bottling Corp., Nestlé and San Miguel Corp.

In February last year, the PPA increased its cargo rates by 10 percent saying there would be no further increase in the rates in the following 16 months. However, the PPA did not live up to its promise and it raised the rates again by 10 percent early this month.

"The rate increase runs counter to the commitment of the Macapagal administration to reduce cargo handling and transport costs in the country," said Gambito.

He noted that among the resolutions adopted in the economic summit last year was the reduction of cargo handling rates, which the Summit proponents deemed detrimental to the country's' economic growth.

CSPM's Henry Basilio said the PPA should first set and strictly follow clear-cut guidelines in rate setting to make the process transparent.

CSPM members include the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mindanao Business Council, DMAP, Export Development Council, Federation of Free Farmers, Association of Private Port Owners and Operators of the Philippines, United Trampers Association of the Philippines, Samahan sa Pilipinas ng Industriyang Kimika, Philippine Electrical, Electronics and Allied Industries Federation, Asosasyon ng Manggagawa sa Pantalan, United Dockhandlers Inc., Supervisory Union, Pier 8 Arrastre and Stevedoring Service Inc.

Nothing but the troops

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

THIS is fantastic news to those who wish Gloriaetta endless ill will. It seems only yesterday the stock market was declared as clinically dead. Now at last it is showing the best sign there is life. It is having an erec . . .

Well, let's just say it's almost like a miracle. The uptrend comes unannounced much like the American troops in Mindanao. It surprises most stockbrokers. It amazes even the most optimistic bums around here, namely, all government economists.

That's a good opening for the rubblerousers. Nobody can explain the uptrend as yet. There is wild excitement in the stock market. While nobody is looking, they can thus grab the initiative. They can claim the uptrend is a proof they have public support.

"Look," one of them should say within earshot of media, "even the stock market likes what we're doing!" For aren't they the ones who plan to create big trouble? In the process, aren't they making the ultimate sacrifice of destroying the economy?

In fact, the public likes their plan so much, everybody goes crazy and starts buying stocks. After all, the whole truth is, they only want to oust Gloriaetta. And it's not even for anything else, but for the very noble cause of installing themselves in power.

* * *

IN the stock market, anyway, they offer us all kinds of reasons for this little excitement. Any reason at all! The market is up, somebody fat and ugly may say, for instance, because Jaime Cardinal Sin wants to suppress the news. Anything at all!

I'm not kidding when I say that somebody even announced, on public television, it's all because of the presence of American soldiers in Mindanao. What's that—nothing but the troops? Sure, and to all the ladies looking for a good time, my name is Bill Gates.

Based on the official line of this cute administration, the US troops are in Mindanao for war games. My idea of a game is, even the one in which they use real guns and live bullets, it's just all fun and laughter.

You know, it's just like the games during your company party, and with all the fun and excitement, you get a big laugh out of throwing a whole piece of cake, decorated with icing about a foot thick, smack on the face of the boss' wife. That kind of clean fun!

If the US troops are here not only for war games, it's a big insult to our soldiers. In the AFP are some 6,000 men. Don't tell me they don't have the testicles to beat the enemy. The Abu Sayyaf has 45 men, tops, and maybe half of them is even crosseyed.

* * *

ALL RIGHT, let's say the presence of US troops here is the most logical explanation for the market uptrend. It follows then that this cute administration, if it really wants to improve our lives, must send for more troops from other countries.

Who knows what can happen if we have the entire US Pacific fleet here? Today we are only fighting a kidnap-for-ransom group of bandits. With the whole fleet, maybe we can start a war with Malaysia. Imagine the possibilities. They are limitless.

But then again, why must we stop at the Americans. While we're at it, we can also ask for some Japanese troops. If a small group of US soldiers can resurrect the stockmarket, for all we know, the Japanese troops can bring about an economic miracle.

From there, we can go on to ask for Russian troops as well. If we are not engaged in a devastating war with China by then, perhaps we should also take in several millions of Chinese regular soldiers. Then we can all become multimillionaires.

My only concern is, once we have all those soldiers of different nationalities, they may die here of boredom. As the only viable solution, I guess we should also request the al-Qaida, please, to send us even just a token delegation. That would be real fun!

* * *

COME on, the uptrend in the stock market has as much to do with the US troops as the fungus in my right foot. Or, it also has as much to do with the Senate investigation of the stock dealings of our most favorite senator.

Of course everybody knows that a certain senator made several millions of pesos on a certain stock about two years ago. It's hard to say if our favorite senator again made a killing this time.

I only know that, for sure, he could not rely on insider information this time, simply because there was none to be obtained. This stockmarket rally started all so suddenly, even our senators were caught flatfooted.

For the stock market is going, even with the continuing turmoil in the highest offices of the land, with prospects in business still bad, and the business community thinking it's better for us to have a charismatic leader with the IQ of a coffee mug.

But it is clear beyond debate that the real reason behind the uptrend is the entry of foreign funds. And why are they coming? I don't think it has something to do even with the flexible principle of Marsupial Tito.

* * *

IT'S all just a gamble. The foreign fund managers are merely placing their bets now on the Philippines. Ours was one of a few stock markets in Asia which was left behind last year. All the others went up, while ours dropped by 12 percent.

The other laggards were those in Thailand, Indonesia and Pakistan. Today those stock markets are also moving up. Biggest reason, to me, is this old rule in the stock market: If you're at the bottom, there's no way but up.

Still, something must have driven the foreign fund managers to take a gamble on us. For sure, one good reason is that $550-million investment of Japan's Kirin Brewery in the local San Miguel. Another is the recent bond float of the government abroad.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro "the Whiz" Camacho just sold some $750 million worth of bonds at very good interest rates. Not only that, the issue was overscribed by only about three times.

That should be an expression of confidence in this country. If the government can get that much loan at a good price, similar windows can open to others like PLDT and the Lopez groups which are in dire financial straits. In short, there's hope for us.

iBank's . . .

From page B1

P23.9 billion in outstanding loans to PNB into equity, P10 billion worth of government advances would be offset with PNB loans to the government, and the remaining P6.1 billion would be restructured over 10 years.

The conversion of P7.8 billion of convertible preferred shares or bonds to be held by PDIC into equity would give the government a 45-percent stake in the bank, up from 16 percent, and dilute Tan's ownership from 68 percent to 45 percent.

Since PDIC would own non-voting shares, the taipan's group would assign part of its voting rights to the national government.

Experience DVD Supremacy & Affordability

Cutting-Edge Technology

DELL™ DIMENSION™ 8200 (DVD)

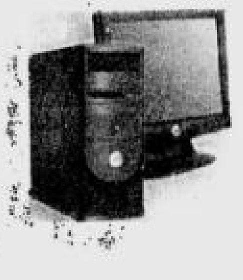
Maximum performance featuring advanced Intel® Pentium® 4 processor technology and dual channel PC 800 RDRAM memory

Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 1.8GHz
16x DVD-ROM Drive
56 Kbps Internal Fax Modem
1.44 MB Floppy Disk Drive
40 GB Ultra ATA Hard Disk Drive
128 MB RDRAM (PC-800)
32 MB Video Card
Windows XP Home Edition
Norton Anti-Virus 2002 (OEM)
Harman Kardon 695 Speakers
(with Champagne-style Subwoofers)
15" Colour Monitor (Midnight Gray Color)

₱ 84,995

plus a special value offer for only P500

FOR DELL™ DIMENSION™ 8200 (DVD)
Upgrade Monitor Display
to Stylish 15" Flat Panel



Thin & Light

DELL™ INSPIRON™ 4000 (DVD)

Perfect for mainstream mobility users looking for Internet multimedia, versatility and performance

Intel® Pentium® III Processor 1GHz
16x DVD-ROM Drive
56 Kbps Internal Fax Modem
1.44 MB Floppy Disk Drive
14.1" TFT Display
20 GB Hard Disk Drive
128 MB SDRAM
Windows ME
Norton Anti-Virus 2002 (OEM)
Integrated Sound Speaker Mic
Lithium Ion Battery

₱ 88,888

lightweight mobile performer
at a smart price

DELL™

Dell™ PCs use genuine Microsoft® Windows®
www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell

DELL'S NORMAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY AND ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE OR UPON REQUEST. Pricing, specifications and availability subject to change without notice. All efforts will be made to check for errors in typography and photography, however inadvertent errors may occur for which Dell may not be responsible. Dell, the Dell logo, Dimension and Inspiron are registered trademarks or trademarks of Dell Computer Corporation. Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Intel, the Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Other trademarks and trade names may be used in this document to refer to either the entities claiming marks and names or their products. Dell disclaims proprietary interest in the marks and names of others. Copyright 2001 Dell Computer Corporation. All rights reserved

intel inside pentium 4

FOR INQUIRIES
634-7999 Loc 253 (Office Hours)
delldirect@iamco.com.ph

SEE OUR DISPLAYS AT THESE AUTHORIZED RETAIL OUTLETS

SILICON VALLEY COMPUTER CENTRE
371-5611 TO 20 • 812-6734
Alabang Town Center • Harrison Plaza • SM City Bacoor • SM City Cebu • SM City Davao • SM City Manila • SM City North EDSA • SM City Pampanga • SM Southmall • SM Megamall • Park Square 1 • Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall

ACCENT MICRO PRODUCTS, INC.
634-2417 • 455-1543
SM City North EDSA • SM City Bacoor • SM City Cebu • SM Megamall

PC-LIVE ENTERPRISE
633-1722 • 634-2438
3rd Level Building A, SM Megamall

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, January 25, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	69.5	69.5	67	67.5	414,400
China Banking Corp.	560	560	560	560	630
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	15	15	15	15	200
Citystate Savings Bank	14	14	14	14	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	30.5	30.5	29	29.5	452,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	201	202	199	200	152,090
Philippine National Bank	66	70	65.5	70	81,600
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13	13.5	13	13.5	47,300
Security Bank Corp.	17.5	18	17.5	18	65,600
Union Bank of the Phil.	17.25	17.25	16.75	16.75	261,700
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	31,000
Filipino Fund Inc	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	210,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1295	1300	1285	1300	980
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	10,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1015	1025	1015	1020	17,300
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	31.5	31.5	30.5	31	757,600
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.46	0.49	0.46	0.48	6,270,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	670	680	670	675	234,640
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.03	0.034	0.03	0.034	13,500,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	10,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	22,000
Piltel	0.35	0.37	0.35	0.37	1,210,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	510	515	505	510	237,780
Ivantage Corp.	0.6	0.66	0.6	0.6	450,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.024	0.025	0.023	0.025	397,100,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	26.5	28	26.5	27.5	357,800
Manila Electric Co. B	40.5	40.5	40	40	2,043,800
Petron Corp.	1.92	1.92	1.82	1.86	22,312,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.89	0.9	0.89	0.9	50,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.02	1.08	1.02	1.08	300,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.8	2.85	2.8	2.8	3,403,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	110,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.37	260,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8	12,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	50,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	250,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	140,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	350,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.75	13.75	13.5	13.5	818,000
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	26.5	26.5	26	26.5	95,000
RFM Corp.	2.95	3	2.9	2.9	2,246,000
San Miguel Corp. A	44.5	45.5	44.5	45.5	367,700
San Miguel Corp. B	59	60.5	59	60	1,283,400
Universal Robina Corp.	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	25,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Atok-Big Wedge Co. Inc.	8.9	9	8.9	9	2,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.68	0.68	0.65	0.65	130,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	40,000
Ayala Corp.	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4	22,335,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.8	1.8	1.78	1.8	1,586,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.83	0.84	110,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.54	0.58	0.54	0.58	480,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.008	0.0075	0.008	213,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	40,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.72	0.78	0.7	0.76	39,110,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	300,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.29	0.29	220,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.29	0.33	0.29	0.33	10,890,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.105	0.115	0.1	0.11	12,100,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	100,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.04	1.06	1.02	1.04	390,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	4,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	31.5	31.5	30.5	31	727,500
Global Equities Inc.	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.165	1,500,000
Ionics Inc.	7.3	8.5	7.3	8.3	251,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.74	1.8	1.74	1.76	347,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.5	1.54	1.5	1.54	93,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.017	0.02	0.017	0.02	1,700,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.86	0.92	0.86	0.9	13,820,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	20,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.34	0.36	0.34	0.36	5,740,000
Music Corp.	0.28	0.33	0.28	0.33	18,060,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	900,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.37	0.38	0.37	0.38	50,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.185	0.19	0.18	0.19	1,570,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.33	780,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Interphil Labs Inc. A	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	30,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.31	30,070,000
Pryce Corp.	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	2,400,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	50,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.46	0.47	0.46	0.47	600,000
Acesite Phils Hotel Corp.	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	5,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.6	0.63	0.59	0.6	2,980,000
Manila Jockey Club	10	10	10	10	100
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	10,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	31.5	32	30.5	31.5	2,163,400
DMCI Holdings Inc- Pref.	720	720	720	720	140
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.82	1.84	1.82	1.84	210,000
Globe Tel. A - Warrants	480	480	480	480	800
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	650	660	650	660	7,500
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	160,000,000
RFM Corp. - Pref.	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	20,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25.	1,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10	10	10	10	1,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	628,000,000
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	2,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6	14,984,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	10,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.28	2,010,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.5	0.53	0.5	0.52	3,640,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.31	0.34	0.31	0.33	19,120,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.42	2.46	2.32	2.32	15,147,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.1	0.11	0.1	0.1	400,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.24	0.26	0.24	0.26	1,120,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	20,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.9	7	6.9	6.9	7,754,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.33	0.35	0.33	0.33	600,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.004	0.0042	0.004	0.0042	24,000,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.031	0.037	0.031	0.035	98,100,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.18	2,600,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0038	0.004	0.0038	0.004	11,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	1,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	16,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.019	0.021	0.019	0.02	60,900,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	100,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.02	0.021	0.02	0.021	18,900,000
Interport Res.	0.004	0.0042	0.004	0.0042	17,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.004	0.0042	0.004	0.0042	19,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	94,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	64,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	30,000
Pacifica	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.017	16,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	200,000

CURRENCIES

Jan. 25, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.139861	1.000000	51.3640
Japan	Yen	0.008458	0.007420	0.3811
United Kingdom	Pound	1.622592	1.423500	73.1167
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.146324	0.128370	6.5936
Switzerland	Franc	0.679864	0.596445	30.6358
Canada	Dollar	0.711168	0.623908	32.0464
Singapore	Dollar	0.619827	0.543774	27.9304
Australia	Dollar	0.592136	0.519481	26.6826
Bahrain	Dinar	3.023665	2.652661	136.2513
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.303963	0.266667	13.6971
Brunei	Dollar	0.617810	0.542005	27.8395
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000109	0.000096	0.0049
Thailand	Baht	0.025824	0.022655	1.1637
UAE	Dirham	0.310419	0.272331	13.9880
Korea	Won	0.000863	0.000757	0.0389
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.877300	45.0616
Brazil	Real	0.476929	0.418410	21.4912
Denmark	Kroner	0.134594	0.118079	6.0650
India	Rupee	0.023649	0.020747	1.0656
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.300042	0.263227	13.5204
Mexico	New Peso	0.124889	0.109565	5.6277
New Zealand	Dollar	0.486704	0.426985	21.9317
Norway	Kroner	0.126878	0.11131	5.7173
Pakistan	Rupee	0.019014	0.016681	0.8568
South Africa	Rand	0.101411	0.088968	4.5698
Sweden	Kroner	0.108199	0.094923	4.8756
Syria	Pound	0.022219	0.019493	1.0012
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.032586	0.028588	1.4684
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.001494	0.001311	0.0673

DISCLOSURES

UNIVERSAL Rightfield Property Holdings Inc. has moved to a later date its annual stockholders' meeting originally set on Jan. 30 due to a lack of quorum.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Realty & Holdings Corp. has said an agreement that grants **Comunadides Developers Inc.** the option to require Philrealty to contribute 1,986 square meters in Fort Bonifacio as its capital contribution to a residential condominium project has ended, with CDI not exercising its option.

* * *

GLOBE Telecom Inc. will hold a briefing for its investors on Jan. 31, 2:30 p.m., at the Isla Ballroom 2 of the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel.

* * *

WATERFRONT Philippines Inc. has announced the resignation of Renato Magadia as president effective Feb. 1, 2002. Patrick Gregorio was elected to replace him.

* * *

ACTIVE Alliance Inc. has denied having any information that may explain the increase in its share prices. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

PLDT sees 2001 net over ₱3B

By Abigail L. Ho

THE PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co., the country's largest telecommunications firm, said yesterday it expected its 2001 net income to have reached more than P3 billion, up from P1.11 billion in 2000.

"Last year was very good, much better than 2000. The yearend (consolidated revenue) for 2000 was P1.1 billion. We wouldn't (be doing) our job if we just produced P3 billion, right? We should be better than P3 billion because our managers have been busy," PLDT president Manuel Pangilinan told reporters late on Thursday when asked what his company's performance was like in 2001.

Pangilinan said he also saw the group's capital expenditures this year to amount to P20 billion to P22 billion. The group set its capital spending last year at between P30 billion and P32 billion.

Pangilinan said Smart Communications Inc. was likely to get about P12 billion of the group's capital expenditures, while PLDT itself should get about P8.5 billion, lower from 2001's allocation.

Pangilinan said earlier PLDT would pour in less cash into its fixed-line unit.

This has been a trend since Metro Pacific Corp. gained control of the country's leading telecommunications service provider.

"PLDT's capex for fixed (line) in 2001 is slightly below P10 billion," he disclosed.

PLDT has been reducing its investments in its fixed-line network since 1998. In 1998, the company spent about P18 billion in its fixed-line network. The amount gradually fell to P16 billion in 1999, P12 billion in 2000 and P9.7 billion last year.

Pangilinan said the group would focus on its mobile phone unit, Smart.

"Smart performed very well. Fixed line is also doing well, though not as strong as CMTS (cellular mobile telephone system). Its cash flow is very strong. Last year, CMTS was not performing badly, though we don't know if it will perform as strongly as 2002," he said.

PLDT is currently in talks with a number of prospective investors for Smart. It is set to sell a minority stake in the country's largest cellular service operator to help pay some $1.3 billion worth of obligations maturing in 2004.

"The discussions are ongoing with a number of (prospective investors). I think we can have something by the end of the first quarter," he said.

Ayala to retire $212M worth of foreign bonds

AYALA Corp. is set to retire another $212 million worth of foreign bonds maturing in July after paying off some $170 million worth of Eurobonds late last year using proceeds from the sale of its food unit, Pure Foods Corp.

"We'd like to reduce our debts further this year," Ayala managing director Rufino Luis Manotok said in an interview.

Manotok reported that as of last year, Ayala had about P50 billion in consolidated debts, including borrowings contracted to fund the huge capital requirements of its telecommunications unit, Globe Telecom Inc.

"There will be some refinancing," Manotok replied when asked how the conglomerate would wipe out its maturing debts.

In a separate disclosure, Ayala said it had given mandate to Standard Chartered Bank for a $150-million loan facility, but the borrower would be its subsidiary, AC International Finance Ltd. Ayala would simply act as a guarantor.

Manotok declined to indicate how much of its debts would Ayala pay off this year.

He said the group had yet to finalize the amount it would spend this year, but disclosed that most of its big requirements, such as those used for its telecommunications business, had already been pumped in last year.

In this regard, he said, spending for 2002 would not likely be as big.

Last year, Ayala set aside at least $1 billion in capital expenditures, bulk of which was used to upgrade the infrastructure of Globe Telecom in view of cutthroat competition in the wireless telephone business.

Doris C. Dumlao

Stocks dip

From page B1

turnover remained robust.

The main index dipped 2.49 points, or 0.19 percent, to 1,337.15. Over the week it was up 6.3 percent.

Turnover totaled P1.19 billion, from 1.46 billion on Thursday.

Citisecurities Online vice president Juanis Barredo noted that players needed a pause after such a sharp run-up.

"Prices have to justify the rises, and there has been no real upbeat corporate or economic announcements that could fuel such a rally . . . we are way, way overbought," Barredo said.

The current correction might last for a week or two, but if the main index holds above 1,250 points it was likely to be taken as an opportunity for fresh buyers to come in "as they may not be comfortable buying at these (current) prices," he said.

With most positive news factored in for now, including the easier interest rate environment, the market was likely to fall back below 1,300 points, with 1,350-1,370 seen as the upside, Lim said. ***Reuters***

CITIBANK®

Soon you'll see how our look has changed.

A member of citigroup

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974008
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 (9129011 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2002

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of 8-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

DENTAL

DENTAL CLINIC Complete with Xray & Other Equipt. P180,000.00 Tel.560-2303

PERSONAL

ACCOUNTANT

Bookkeeping / Accounting Services
Call or Text 0917-8312369

MASSAGE

18KT GUYS 8129107

BOYZ 2DMX 8348875

Glen9264664-09198457226

H.S. Massage09163924700

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883

MASSAGE (0919)433-3191 GEM

MASSAGE FRED 8613462

•New Mabuhay Massage• Everyday Promo 421-5996

UNWIND 752-0437

VALENTINO 5758150

REFLEXOLOGY

D' Millenium Reflex M/F
Home/Hotel Srvcs 9347633

Edgar Reflex 7503640 HHS

Edward Reflex 7289285

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

Scorpion Massg 4372542

TUTORIAL LESSONS

• LIGHT-5268216 OR 70 •

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

• A-1 MAIDS 8330946/47

Avble Maids Fr. Province 1st Time Mla 445-0513, 291-4524

BEST MAID 411-1593/741-9082

BEST MAIDS 912-4701•9124706

Cook Maid Yaya Driver 8743305

Direct Maid Yaya Cook 7572089

GoodMaids w/NBI 4215588

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

IDEAL MAIDS 4934583

International Cook 8735271•6722792

MAIDS BOY DRIVER 8737057/8533505

MAIDS•2594067•2590869

Maidyaya cook drivr7217580

NURSE•Midwife•Oldsitter•Yaya 8720265•7722353•8429807

Prov'l MAID YAYA COOK LABA BOY DRIVER 873-5062•873-7056

RELIABLE HONEST MAIDS W/ NBI4212938/4213253

We have maids nurse mwife PT hmecare 3664375/4141135

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 LIPAT BAHAY 4313974

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT CHEAP 5220956

Lipat Bahay • 824-1227

LIPAT BAHAY w/5 helpers 24 hrs. svc 7128861 / 7315750

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

LIPAT BAHAY

LIPAT MM/PROVL•4342613•

CARPET CLEANING

Sofa Shampooing 8207068

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

3S w/Deck 0919-8297290

NEWLY RENOVATED
DUPLEX HOUSE LOCATED AT UNIVERSITY BELT READY FOR ACCUPANCY. SEE TO APPRECIATE P1.6M NEG. INQUIRE: SUNSHINE 1542 G. TUAZON ST. COR AH LACSON SAMPALOC, MANILA ASK FOR SHIRLEY 749-7163 BROKERS ARE WELCOME

MARIKINA

Graind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-5282174

MUNTINLUPA

Ayala Alabang 900m²/700m² /600sqm Neg 0917-5282174

PARANAQUE

Marcelo HL P2.7M 645-9931

QUEZON CITY

Carmel V Rush 09164878401

Cheap 980T only 260m² nr Rbinson,SMFview 9265338

KAMUNING NEW 4BR 3T/B 180m² P6.5M #141 K-2nd St. Tel. 724-2629 • 410-7619

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS
2sty 5rms 6TB 650m²LA Vacant lot w/ view avble 929-1832 • 426-5650

Nr. Mindanao Ave Rush 7422447

nr UP 3BR 2TB P2.2M
Cash 9310685/9322128

PROJ. 2 B'New 3Sty 4BR 4TB P4M #29 Marang St. 434-8186

PROJ. 2 B'New B'FUL 3Sty 3B /R 4T/B P4M #19 Kubili St. Tel. 434-8186 • 724-2629

RENT/SALE ROLLING HILLS
NR GATE L530 *09177852673
St.Charbel BN 7M *4251872

Rush Sikatuna Vill 466m² 4BR3TB Lanat nr Church, Big Open Space 7M Call Mrs Camacho 9215479

SIKATUNA VILL. B'New B'ful 3Sty #13 Mapagkumbaba P12M Bung. #9 Matipid St., 10.5M 3Sty 119 Matimtiman 10.5M Tel 434-6054, 724-2629

•SM NORTH Bnew 9263307•

Acropolis/Gnmdows/VVerde 300; 600; 945sqm 4-6BRs 2Stry w/pool P14-32M Call for Appt 633-7601/03

•Teachers Vill 600m² Bung 4BR4TB w/bodega nice 11M •Sikatuna 594m² 2hses 12M Call Mrs Camacho 9215479

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

RUSH H&L 4M neg 189 sqm NR CH & MARKT 630-04-26 650-74-64

OTHER AREAS

RUSH!CanyonWoods Bingas 6.5M 0917-8143792

LOT

MANDALUYONG

5000m² Lot & Various Lots in Mand. 534-6610 Jojo

QUEZON CITY

528sqm @ 7T/m² 8257541

EDSA LOTS QC 1600m², 3200m² MARK 0919-5825646 VIRGIE 7333948 0919-3131338

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PROVINCIAL

Montebello
Along Maguyam Road
Carmona, Cavite
PRE-SELLING
Own a residential lot for a discounted price!
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE
Tel. No. 635-8108
Look for WENG
Brokers are Welcome

QUEZON CITY

EDSA nr Munoz LA2200m² 45T/m² Mindanao Ave LA37m² 35T/m² 09177852673 / 4251872

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots now available 204-290m² @ P9,500-P12,160 Pay 20%(In 2 mo.)Bal 5 yrs Mo. Inst. Few Lots Only w/ Complete Facilities RUSH! 9319117; 9319160 T.Banez

•PROJ 6 442m² 9263307•

RIZAL

Antipolo LA3hc 4251872

CAINTA 540m² Felix Av Dir Buyer Tess Parayno 7155469

Taytay 70sqm 09178174547

PROVINCIAL

6 lots @ 3T/m² 8257541 ANTIPOLO Cavaliers Subd.

SPLENDIDO TAAL
Resd'l, Golf & Country Club
Overlooking, w/1st Class amenities
Reserve 20T, 15% DP Call 930-9957

OTHER AREAS

Ciudad Real, SJDM BUL-292m² Call: Tel: 8903461 to 69 loc 34

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

MAKATI

9T Monthly
Avail of BIG discounts to own 2BR, 2storey town house nr C5; In-hse financing NO INTEREST Call 837-3034

Only P9,000++/mo
Avail of only 10% DP to own 2BR condo nr. Mkti/Ortigas. Ready 4 Occupancy ! In-hse financing No Interest . Call 6411782

Owner Leaving Rush Sale 3Stry Mkt Thouse LA-66 FA-198 P6.5M Neg 728-9856

STUDIO 26.5sm FF P1.6M Century Citadel Inn Makati Ave. cor. P.Burgos •Tel 8230087/09175272166•

MANILA

ERMITA 1BR 500T 8969219

NEAR LA SALLE TAFT
VITO CRUZ MANILA
BNew/4stry/3br/3tb/grge P2.695M up 8903461 loc 34

Or Rent Big Bdrm Nr La Salle St Scho Hway 2TB Prkg Tel 849-3545 M-F • 400-9407 Sat-Sunday

PACO (OTIS) 2BR CAR GRGE 2TEL H²O TANK SECURED CALL 564-0011 OR 632-4327

Providence Tower Malate Studio Type 0917-5282174

UrOwnCondo@16T/mo.
Nr Ortigas, San Juan, Mdlayong & Mla w/ 1st class amenities. Prime units avble! Call 716-7039; 716-7044 now!

MANDALUYONG

LEE GARDENS CONDO
Avail Easy Payment Terms
Contact: LARRY
Text / Call • 0919-3938255

Lee Gardens Condo Std 3br Easy Pymnt 534-6610 Jojo

NoDown P16ma 2BRs 8903903

Various Mand. Town-hse @ Low Price 534-6610 Jojo

Various Wack² Condo Low Price Call 534-6610 Jojo

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

99.5% COMPLETE
FOR SALE
FURNISHED & UNFURNISHED

ONE BEATRIZ TOWER
1st Class COMM'L-OFFICE RES'L CONDO. X'lent VIEW (360°) of the Metropolis w/ rooftop S. POOL & GARDEN and 1st CLASS AMENITIES at a LOWEST PRICE
A. BLVD. nr. ATENEO, UP, PSBA, NCBA, MARYKNOLL, & OTHER PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOLS & O.C. BUSINESS CENTER
ACCESSIBLE
WHY BUY IF NOT FINISHED
BUY & TRANSFER NOW!
FEW UNITS LEFT
MASTER C RE-DE, INC.
TEL#: 921-4883/922-4464 433-7668/433-6842

PASAY

1BR 46sm FFparkng P3.5M Antel Seaview Towers Roxas Blvd-bsd Hyatt Hotel •Tel 8230087/09175272166•

PASIG

TEKTITE West Sale or Rent 111m² Call 412-1825

QUEZON CITY

1.8M
52.96m² near ABS-CBN
call 924-1402 / 412-5192

Bnew Twnhse Ctrl. Dil. Heart Ctr. QC Hall UP & Ateneo 4.8M reduced to 4.3M 4storey w/ roofdck 3Bnew AC units 1 car gar. 172sqm 2BR, 2TB minor wrks needed to suit ur taste Ready 4 occupancy contact Michle 924-2159

Nr Loyola Memorial
10min 2 Ateneo, St. Lucia Libis, C-5, Riverbanks inside d Subd, with Security T-hus 2BR / Attic / 2TB 2.3M 4128163-65 / 09174696831

Sanville 3.6M 09195825646

TandangSora 3br+1md 2tb P2.5M DBO 0917-8143792

TandangSora Tiera Pura Embassy 2BR2TB w/ Attic P2.5M Call 0446002075

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park Family Estate near C5 Call 743-6925

RESORT

BHAUS 5BR 5TB 1Tm² 2KIOS Kagalakan Batangas 921-7081

FARM/FISHPEN

Baras Farm 1.5H 635-0462

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MAKATI

NEW HSE PALANAN T#833-0796

3BR 2B 2srvntqtr 8992148

MANDALUYONG

1BR Wack² Royal Mansion FF Fully Aircon Tel Le Philip Tan 813-2621

2BR CG w/Tel 10T 531-0965

QUEZON CITY

2BR Roxas Dist. 3713205

2Stry 2BRw/ carport 1 ride to SM North P6,500/mo Tel 9371601

3br 2tb w/garage 921-8575

70Mapang-akit 2543676-78

P11T with Garage near UP Diliman 09192547024

SAN JUAN

91 A.Luna Spacious 9th/mo good location Call 6461603

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

VILLA FELIZA HOMES
Alabang Zapote Rd.,
Las Piñas City
Initial DP: P 25,000

COASTAL WOODS VILLAGE
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 25,000

CASIMIRO TOWNHOMES
Habay, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000

WESTVILLE HOMES
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000
FORTE REALTY
2/F Princess Bldg, Esteban St, Legaspi Village, Makati City
810-8019 829-5081
810-7183 872-7603
815-2144 871-8318
776-4604 893-4206
Welcome Brokers & Agents write to
fortereaIty@skyinet.net

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

MAKATI

Magallanes House w/pool M-F 8184966 SIS 8106557

SANLO DUPLEX 568048

MANILA

3BR 2TB 5217640 5223317

MUNTINLUPA

House 4Rent:P6,000.00/mo newly renovated T8376788 Soldier's Hill Aratiris St. Blk1,Lot30 Mutual Homes Soldier's Hill Muntinlupa

PARANAQUE

4BR 3TB 2Car Grge
Basement Ireneville
16.5T 09178403214

QUEZON CITY

4br2tb West Fview9318896

PROVINCIAL

Tglay Hse 0919-4038152

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BR Mkt Studio 8906331

ASIA TOWER 1508
Studio Type 40 sq.m.
• CALL: Myrna 893-1043 •

Makati 1-2-3BR Furnish 882-8196 • 0919-7847640

STUD furn freeH2O 899-2148

VALERO PLAZA 3BR 25T
1yr lease or sale=3.8m
8400965 / 09174114802

MANILA

3BR 3TB 3sty nr. LSalle 8992148

Condo apt. 841 Gov.Forbes near UST 8103019 7312148

MANDALUYONG

Paragon 1Bdr Edsa 742-2447

Sale/Rent New Unit 135m² 3BR 1MaidRm 3TB w/ 1Prkg Call 411-2130 Office Hrs

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

AGRICULTURAL LANDS

FOR SALE OR LEASE
168 Hectares with 5,000
18 years Old Mango Trees
Nasugbu Batangas Tel. No. 823-1480

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MARIKINA

NEW 2BR U/D P8.5th/mo. #7 Lark St. Call 646-1603

Pioneer Highland for Sale /Rent New Unit 3BR1MaidRm 3TB w/1Prkng 135m² Call Office hrs at 415-2354

PASIG

3BR FFur RES8888 Ortigas Ctr 7224359 / 7257997

AIC 2BR MdsRm 20T 4121825

QUEZON CITY

2BR Park PLTHS 426-7163 Xavierville II Loyola Hgts

WPlains 3BR2TB 3Bth MD QRT w/ Tel Call 9115178

SAN JUAN

G'HILLS 1BR 5268048

ROOM & BOARD

w/AC&CR Mktl. 899-2148

BEDSPACE

A1 Mkt Bldg. M/F 8908374

FBEDSPACE 1.5T QC 3730877

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

CAR SANGLA • INSTANT!
WHILE -U- WAIT
924-1254 • 925-9121 • 926-4160
We Also Buy Used Cars

BUSINESS RENTAL

50m² P25T 7217580

#681 Boni cor. Barranca Manda 307m² 80T 8956749

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
Plamo 38/85/62/185m² 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

Jollibee Plz 81.40m² 26T Call 4121825;09177914366

Prestige 95m² 35T 4121825

OFFICE SPACE FOR MEDICAL / DENTAL CLINIC 921-8590 /921-8575

MALATE OFFICES 5268048

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

94 Civic LX LDD 823-4014

HYUNDAI

HYUNDAI GALLOPER, 1997, P400T, 4x4, AT, Blk Color, Leather Uphols, Fully Loaded, Tel.#:8896235

KIA

Besta Van P205T (Neg)
671-3535 / 733-2507 / 0917-8472715

MITSUBISHI

'90 Pajero 721-0317/4452

99PAJERO 1st OWN 30,000 km MATIC 4x4 P1.150M 3026033

TOYOTA

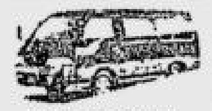
'98 PRADO DUBAI 7210317

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HYUNDAI

MIREA TRADING



NEW GRACE
Musso 4x4 Galloper 4x4
MB100 (Benz) Besta 2.2 4x4
Tel. 681-6406
Cel: 0917-9657482
0919-7518488

TOYOTA

Imptd Lite Ace GXL D'sel Turbo Matic P365 7210317

MOTORCYCLE

DUCATI 2001-996 Loaded •Call Martin 0917-8106998•

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/TRANSPORT

10/40Kva Genset Kubota 4x4P55T 3672002; 3610215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273463 4538295

Bnew Van 8254058 8261045

BRIDAL/CAR/VAN•4342613•

FXcheaprates3730584Cathy

HI ACE VANS •8262988•

HIAce, L300 9296250

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917(Roger)

StarexMB100HIAce9483535

MB HIAce L3 Urvan 8257135

SELF-DRIVE
New CARS/VANS-ALL BRANDS
ABC 5368822/3039789

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o taking car 7262700

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

Car Released 30mins.8990215

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

YAMAHA PIANOS
Grand & Upright T7213124

ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

Computer 4 Sales CEL300 HDD 3.2gram 64MB CDROM 32w/50 Und Card Keyboard Mouse VGA Card&15monitor P14,500 •Call 0425854240•

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

Golden Retriever Pups M American Bulldog Pups F Call /Text • Jetdog Kennel 0917-5348096

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Tel 721-3736

Pug Pups! 416-3509 252-0406

SPORTING GOODS

Billiards P30/33/36/38 A1 Qlty-Bnew 8020566/8014494

Imported Billiard 22T, 35T Complete Acc's. 8618714/16 . 8613123 / 8613125

New Billiard P18.5T P22T P25T Ok C.Card 781-9453

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

B/SELL FUL PD EDUC PLAN 7137284•09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

SALE EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

WE BUY ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09174383744

MISCELLANEOUS

Dental Clinic w/ Unit & Chair For Sale 50T Loc. Kapasigan Down Town 642-9446 • 642-9371

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

ALL-AROUND DRIVER 634-1332

Driver Stay-In Single 9395640

HVAC Technician or Engineers Experience in HVAC, Chillers Oriented (MCQUAY, CARRIER) •5623962•09176916992•

PLAN/BUILD 046-8521399

Stay-In Driver Single
Txt or Call • 0917-9002858

FEMALE

Fitness Instructress,Life-guard Domestic Helper & Beautician •5623962•09176916992•

Preschool Teachers
10. J. Ocampo, Proj. 4, QC #421-2595; Txt 0916-3160786

Pretty Shoemart Salesladies For Mega / Bacoor / Makati Sucat/Albng, 5'2" College Level. Bring Biodata, 1x1 #14 Hillside Loop, Blue Ridge, Cubao Tel 439-4260

Wanted Helper/Yaya 8211595

MALE/FEMALE

•ACCOUNTING CLERK•
•MARKETING ASSISTANT•
Submit Biodata, Transcript, ID Photo to: Rm. 505 State Center Bldg., Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City

CARE GIVER T5280722

Hairstylists, Manicurists Receptionist 7723218

M/F Refl'gists Apply at 32-A Baler St. SFDM QC bring Biodata Monday - Saturday only Tel. 371-7010

OFC STAFF 2520970 ADAM

Ofc Staff 9134470 Ms. Bon

OFC STAFF 9134470 Ms Icy

OFC STAFF 9134470 Mariel

OFC STAFF 9328082 Aris

OFC STAFF Rush9134470 Ian

Part-time Computer Students Who Can Modify/ Create Own Fashion Designs For Fashion Accessories, On Contract Basis •Tel.nos:8505940 8604562•

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

WANTED ACCOUNTANT
Send resume to 532 Tomas Mapua St., Sta. Cruz Manila or fax to 3099226 or email hrd@continuum.com.ph

WANTED PHARMACIST PREFERABLY RESIDING AT NOVALICHES CAL. CITY PLS CALL 9393483

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

FREE TAX SEMINAR 4568634

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EARN & TRAVEL 0919-6165084

Earn Up to 29T/mo. by Paying Ur Monthly Bills 6335527 /6335528/4536630

Earn Up to 29T/mo. By Paying UR Monthly Bills 633-5527 • 633-5528 • 453-6562

French Int'l co.
new ofc opening soon in Mla, with a market potential of $US 2.3 billion looking for ENTREPRENEURS/ LEADERS to market their unique products. Please fax 65-5854654 or e-mail: rsunkc@starhub.net.sg

Glbe11%Smrt 11.5% 745-9351

Great News! If you are not earning over 200T/mo.@ ur present network bus. Let's Talk Now 807-2359 RESH

JUICE DRINK MAKING BUSINESS FREE TRAINING 2554643 OR 44 2569331 OR 36

Ongoing Business
Rush Sale! Refilling Water
Cellphone • 0917-4089942

PROFITABLE INTERNET CAFES FOR SALE
P100,000++ Gross per Month
- Baguio City
- San Fernando City, La Union
- Tarlac

For details contact: JV or Dang Tel. Nos. 637-2778, 637-9290 Cel. No. (0919) 564-2339

RTW InventorySale 3738821

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that Stock Certificates of San Miguel Corp. bearing nos. 01678290, 9960357, 97504375, 96403134, 95298533, 94173922, 93092177, 92046202, 89043601, 89021705, 88015545 and 88031995 issued to CARMITA-INDAY B. TROSDAL of 98 F. Ramos St. Cebu City, Philippines, which in the aggregate represent Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Eight (2,568) number of shares were lost or misplaced and could not be found; hence these are to be declared lost and to be reconstituted after cancellation so replacement could be made.
(PDI-Jan. 12, 19 & 26, 2002)

Notice is given that the S2 Lic. 10804R99-148 under the name of Dra. Mina Gracia R. Capiral was lost.-PDI-1/26/02

Notice is hereby given that the certificate of stock #019 consisting of 2500 shares of SLORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION issued to LARCY MARICHI Y. SO was lost. If no contest received new certidicate will be issued.
(PDI-Jan. 26. Feb. 2 & 9, 2002)

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO BLESSED MOTHER
(NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL)

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh star of the sea help me and show me, herein you are my Mother Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of My Heart to succor me in this necessity there are none that can withstand Your power. Oh show me herein You are Mother.

Oh Mary, conceived without sin. Pray for us who have recoursed to thee (3x).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in Your hands (3x).

Thank you for Your mercy toward me and being mine.

Thank you Mama Mary for answering my prayers. Amen.

(This prayer must be said for three days and after three days, your request will be granted and the prayer must be published.)

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever, Amen.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

We are a leading company in fashion and design who is in need of:

GARMENT PRODUCT DESIGNER

- Creative Designer, Innovator
- Concept Artist and up to date in fashion at least 20-25 years old

Submit your Comprehensive Resumé and Transcript of Records to:

Abstract Creation Corporation
#33 Panalturan Street, Banawe Extension
Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 365-0592 to 93

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"

Damaged Motor Vehicles

1994 Toyota Corolla 1.6/TRS-278
1996 Dodge Grand Caravan/UMA-472
1996 Mitsubishi L-300 FB/CAN-278
1998 Toyota Tamaraw Wagon/GGF-552
1996 Nissan Sentra 1.4/UMS-563
Various Repairable Appliances

For particulars, call **Philam Ins. Co., Inc./** Dick Cariño. **Tel. No. 75-43-457**

SPACES FOR RENT

MAKATI OFFICE BUILDING

Citibank Tower, Paseo de Roxas
Quadrant C&D, 942 sqm.
6 Parking Spaces, P400/sqm.

RESIDENTIAL SPACE 202.05 sqm.
3 Bedroom with 2 Garage, 2 Toilet/Bath
with Kitchen, Dining and Living Area

WOODSIDE HOMES
DONA HEMADY AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
38T/month
Call: EMMANTERE 411-2271 to 75

Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG KORPORASYON SA ELEKTRISIDAD
(NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION)

INVITATION FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. PD 2002-02

Rebidding Date: February 6, 2002 - 10:00 AM

PB020123-PDRA7054	UNSCHEDULED PARTS REQUIREMENTS OF HELICOPTERS RP-2860 & RP-2870 & BN2T ISLANDER RP-766 (Fuel Quantity/Oil Temperature Indicator, Conduit Assy., Bushing, etc.)
PB020123-PDER7064	PLAQUE, Clear Acrylic with Polyester Resin Plaque, Clear Acrylic Base with NPC Logo, No Sharp Edge

*** Opening Date: February 11, 2002 - 10:00 AM**
Bidding Date: February 13, 2002 - 9:00 AM
Pre-Bid Conference: February 6, 2002 - 2:00 PM

2002-02-01	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FUEL (UNLEADED GASOLINE & DIESEL) Conforms with the quality standards prescribe under RA #8749 CLEAN AIR ACT (To be purchased thru Open-Ended Purchase Order for a period of three months starting April, 2002)
2002-02-02	TIRES, Tubeless, various sizes (To be purchased thru Open-Ended Purchase Order for a period of four months starting March, 2002)

Interested parties are invited to apply for eligibility and to submit sealed bids on the above to be opened publicly at the Sampaguita Room, Ground Floor, Building 2, NPC-OBC, Quezon Avenue corner Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Eligibility forms and bidding documents are available on **January 25, 2002** upon payment of P50.00 which is non-refundable.
* Last day of issuance of eligibility and bidding documents is on **February 6, 2002.**

Issuance of eligibility forms and bidding documents, mornings only, 8:30 to 11:30 AM. For inquiries, please call no. 921-2574.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
NPC-OBC (Head Office)
Diliman, Quezon City

(PDI – Jan. 26 & 28, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Telefax Nr 421-2327; 911-6001 Loc. 6592
bac_secretariat_afpmp@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites interested manufacturers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **UPGRADE OF TWELVE (12) UNITS 105MM (T) HOWITZERS M101A1 AND THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) SETS ASSOCIATED FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM (FCS)**, with an approved budget of **One Hundred Eighty Million Six Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Four Hundred Forty Pesos (Php 180,685,440.00)** under the **AFP Modernization Program.**

Only bids from suppliers who are the manufacturers themselves of said howitzers shall be entertained.

Bid documents will be available for issuance starting **January 25, 2002** until **February 7, 2002** during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability, Materiel and Technology Development, J9, AFP, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City upon payment of **Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php 20,000.00)** which is not refundable. The form of payment will be in cash or cashier's check in favor of the AFP.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the bid documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **February 7, 2002 at 1:00 PM (local time)** at *Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, 1st Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.* Prospective bidders are required to submit their queries in writing to the BAC Secretariat prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

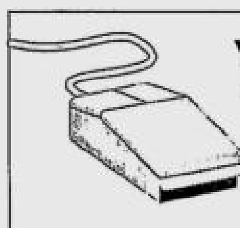
The Bidder shall be allowed to inspect the *Howitzers* and facilities upon purchase of bid documents until the deadline of submission of the First Stage envelopes.

Deadline for submission of Eligibility/Bid Documents (First Stage) is on **March 12, 2002 at 9:00 AM (local time)** after which the Opening of Bids shall immediately follow. Venue is at *Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, First Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.*

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) **NARCISO L. ABAYA**
Lt General, AFP
Chairman, BAC

(PDI – Jan. 25 & 26, 2002)



Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

JOBMarket ONLINE

VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

THE PRIMELINK GROUP OF COMPANIES

we have moved to a better office location
at
10th Flr., Unit 10-D1, JMT Corporate Condominium
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
New Tel. Nos.: 687-7279 • 687-7282 • 687-7299
e-mail: plgroup@pworld.net.ph

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila
Tel. No. 527-4873, 527-4892 & 527-4880 to 82

INVITATION TO BID
GENCO 1 02-001 (PB)
DATE OF BIDDING ----- FEBRUARY 8, 2002

9907-035-TES	3 units, Portable Submersible Drainage and Sludges Pumps
0104-035	1 lot, Various Ironwork Tools for Ash Handling Maintenance, consisting of 15 items
0105-013-TES	2 pcs., High Speed Electric Actuator, Model EPR for EPR-REC 920 BFP-T Control System, complete with actuator Rod and Servo Valve Position Feedback Transmitter (LVDT), Differential Transformer type position sensor or Servo Actuator, Type ± 125 mm, Type A (Special Design) Manufactured by C.I.S. Amrein
0110-044-TES	6 kits, Eddy Current Clutch to VFD Convertion Kit and 196 NT MFC K1 & K7 with hinge panel Retrofit Kit, Gravimetric Coal Feeder Microprocessor/Controller 196 NT Control System, Manufactured by Stock Equipment Co.
0111-004	1 lot, Spare bearings for Turbine, Water Treatment and Ash Handling Equipment, consisting of 28 items
0111-006	24 pcs., Flexible Connection, copper, 13.8 KV/1700 & 5500 A system, Manufactured by Moser-Glaser & Co.
0111-027-TES	1 lot, Fastrack Vibration Analyzer Accessories, Manufactured by Entek IRD International
0111-028-TES	1 lot, Datapac 1500 Vibration Analyzer Accessories, Manufactured by Entek IRD International
0111-030-TES	350 MT, Supply, hauling/handling, storage and delivery of Liquid Caustic Soda, rayon grade, for approx. six-month open contract tentatively from March 1 to August 31, 2002
0111-058	1 lot, Various Medicines, consisting of 18 items
0111-061	8 pcs. Solenoid Valve, Model 4F510-B1U, Pilot Type, 5 Port Solenoid, Brand CKD with 6 pcs Coil Solenoid, 230 V AC, 60 Hz

Bid documents will be available to accredited suppliers starting **January 28, 2002** and may be secured from Administration Division during working days from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM upon payment of P 25.00 for ONE ENVELOPE SYSTEM and P 50.00 for TWO ENVELOPE SYSTEM.

Bids must be in triplicate and shall be accompanied by Bidder's Bond equivalent to 5% of the total bid price either in Cash, Manager's Check, Irrevocable LC, Bank Draft/Guarantee or Surety Bond from GSIS Insurance Commission.

The corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality contained therein and accept the bids considered most advantageous to the corporation.

(Sgd.) **LORNA T. DY**
Manager
Professional Services Department

(PDI--Jan. 26, 2002)

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY
PNOC Bldg. VI, Energy Center
Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig
Tel/Fax No.: 555-0254 / 95 / 840-1440

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (PNOC)** invites Suppliers and Contractors to apply for accreditation for future requirements for the following products and services:

- Office Equipment and Supplies
- IT Equipment, Peripherals and Supplies
- Hardware Tools and Supplies
- Electrical Equipment and Supplies
- Purified Drinking Water
- Printing Services
- Pest Control Services
- Shuttle Bus/Transportation Services
- Surveying and Appraisal Services
- PABX Maintenance Services
- Canteen Concessionaire
- Plant Rental

Interested parties may obtain pre-qualification documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 from the PNOC - Property and Supply Management Division (PSMD) at the G/F of the PNOC Building.

Applicants with favorable result shall be included in the PNOC's List of Accredited Suppliers and Contractors and shall be eligible to join future biddings for the Company's requirements.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. PEDRO A. AQUINO, JR.**
Senior Vice President
Legal, Admin. and Estate
Management Services

(PDI - Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL HISTORICAL INSTITUTE
T. M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The National Historical Institute-Bids and Awards Committee invites contractors classified and registered with Inter-Agency Committee on Registration and Classification of Contractors to apply for eligibility and submit bid for the following projects:

1. **Restoration of the Barasoain Church Historical Landmark**
   Location : Malolos, Bulacan
   Approved Budget : P2,000,000.00
   Duration : 116 days
2. **Repair and Refurbishing of the Museum Building of M. H. del Pilar Historical Landmark**
   Location : Bulacan, Bulacan
   Approved Budget : P1,090,000.00
   Duration : 110 days

Interested parties are advised to submit Letter of Intent and photocopy (with original) of Registration of Business Name and Certification of Registration and Classification together with a Credit Line equivalent of ten percent (10%) of the Project Cost issued by a reputable bank on **January 22 to 31, 2002** at the Records Section, National Historical Institute, T. M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila. Eligibility forms and bid documents shall be issued on **February 4 to 5, 2002** upon payment of non-refundable fee.

Eligibility statements shall be submitted to the NHI-BAC on **February 11 to 12, 2002**, not later than 4:30 p.m. No eligibility statement shall be received after the said date and time.

Duly accomplished bid documents shall be made in two (2) sealed envelopes as required in PD 1594. Submission of documents and opening of bids shall be on **March 14, 2002** at 1:00 p.m. at the NHI Board Room.

Prequalified contractors shall submit their respective securities in the amount of not less than 2.5% of the total project cost at the date and time of the opening.

All particulars relative to eligibility screening, bidding and award of contract shall be governed by the Provisions of PD 1594 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, as amended, and other applicable rules and regulations.

The NHI reserves the right not to open bids at all and restart the bid process, to reject any and/or all prequalification and/or bids, waive any defects therein, and accept the bid most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **AUGUSTO V. DE VIANA**
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI - Jan. 19 & 26, 2002)

YOUR CONNECTION TO BETTER PEOPLE, BETTER JOBS.
visit us at **www.jobmarketonline.com**

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OBITUARIES

For God
so loved
the world, that
He gave His
only begotten
Son, that
whoever
believes in
Him shall not
perish
but have
everlasting
life.

John 3:16

JOSEFINA DE VENECIA FERNANDEZ, M.D.

U.P. MEDICINE CLASS '53
OWNER-DIRECTOR JVF CLINIC
& LYING-IN HOSPITAL

Peacefully joined her Creator on January 23, 2002
at the age of 74.

Her bereaved husband **Atty. Herminio G. Fernandez**; sons **Herminio "Noel" M.D., Fernando "Dodo" M.D.**, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie at Quiogue Funeral Homes, Dagupan City.

Interment will be on Sunday, January 27, 2002 at the Eternal Gardens Memorial Park - Dagupan after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

PAZ GRUET GARCIA
(Paching)

Entrego su alma al Creador a la edad de 86 años
el dia 24 de Enero de 2002
despues de recibir los Santos Sacramentos

Sus desconsolados hijos **Jun y Ping**, **Connie y Robert**, **Marilen y Dort**, **Mona y Marcelo**, **Puppi**, nietos, bisnietos, sobrinos, y demas parientes participan tan irreparable perdida y ruegan al lector una oracion para su alma.

Se halla de cuerpo presente en Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

El entierro se anunciara mas tarde.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 (9129011 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Agnes Olivares Luciano

of Sta. Maria and Bocaue, Bulacan

Joined her Creator on January 24, 2002 at the age of 58.

Her bereaved husband **Domingo "Ding" C. Luciano**; children **Raymond** and **Rowie Galimba-Luciano, Marilen Luciano-Ruelo** and **Boy** and **Pia, Yvette, Chichi, Valerie Joy**; brothers and sisters **Romeo** and **Landa, Vicente** and **Juliet O. Santos, Vladimir** and **Josie, Annie, Emmanuel** and **Ditas, Eric, Jing** and **Nanette**; mother-in-law **Beatriz**; brothers and sisters-in-law **Jun** and **Dalen, Erasmo** (†) and **Nancy, Fr. Angel Luciano CICM, Nilo** and **Ditas**; nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends request the readers to join them in praying for her journey to eternal life.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the
ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
will be appreciated.

Her remains lie in state at 838 Turo, Bocaue, Bulacan.
Interment will be on Tuesday, January 29, 2002, at
Sta. Maria Catholic Cemetery after the Holy Mass at 2:30 p.m.,
La Purisima Concepcion Parish, Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

The family of the late

GODOFREDO "GODING" OGBAC, SR.

who passed away on January 21, 2002
at the age of 77

wishes to inform relatives and friends that his body lies in state at the family residence in Palayan, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro.

Interment will be on Sunday, January 27, 2002 at San Agustin Memorial Garden, Barangay Quinabigan, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS
and bank-to-bank payments

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS FREE OBIT DESIGN

HIS EMINENCE, JAIME L. CARDINAL SIN, D.D.
THE HOLY APOSTLES SENIOR SEMINARY

and

THE CLERGY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MANILA

wish to inform the pious reader of the demise of

REV. FR. BENJAMIN B. CARLOS, S.J.

who died on January 24, 2002 at the age of 71.

His remains now lie in state at the Holy Apostles Senior Seminary, San Carlos Pastoral Formation Complex, EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City until this afternoon, afterwhich it will be transferred to the Oratory of St. Ignatius, Loyola House of Studies, Ateneo de Manila University Campus, Quezon City. Masses are offered at 8:00 P.M. daily.

The funeral Mass will be on Monday, January 28, 2002 at 8:00 A.M., in the Oratory of St. Ignatius, Loyola House of Studies. Interment will be at the Sacred Heart Novitiate Cemetery, Novaliches, Quezon City immediately after the Mass.

We request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of Fr. Benjamin Carlos, S.J.

We, the family and relatives of the late

CAPT. BARON ALEXANDER R. CERVANTES, (Inf) PA

who joined his Creator on 31 December 2001.

sincerely convey our heartfelt gratitude to all those who paid their last respect and grieved with us, offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and who in one way or another assisted and condoled with us and showed love and concern in our time of bereavement.

Thank you very much. God bless!

SK AURELIO DIMSON PINEDA

Passed away peacefully on January 24, 2002
at the age of 77.

His bereaved wife **LILING**; children **MERCY & TOTIE REMENTILIA, BONG & REMY AQUINO, BENG & BING VERGEL DE DIOS**; grandchildren **FRANCIS & VANESSA, LALLY, RICO, ROBBIE, BONGBONG, PHILIP, PEPPER, CARLO, CARMELA & CELINE**; and other relatives request prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse, Kalaklan, Olongapo City.

Interment will be at the Olongapo Memorial Park on Sunday, January 27, after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the KC Clubhouse.

Atty. Rizalino Ragadio Pablo

Born July 19, 1913
in San Marcelino, Zambales

Returned to the Lord on Thursday, January 24, 2002
at the age of 88.

His beloved wife **Bituen Fonacier Pablo**; children **Tagumpay** and **Cynthia, Luwalhati, Buhay** and **Angelito** (†), **Rizalino Jr.** and **Emmeline, Mabini** and **Maria Clementina**, and **Bituin** and **Motonori**; grandchildren **Karinna** and **Ariel, Rominna** and **Cornelio, Janinna** and **Angelo, Zelinna, Rizalino III, Lorinna, Robert, Ritzie, Ronaldo Rizal, Kristine, Eileen, Joào, Erika, Elaine, Ma. Isabel**; great-grandchildren **Bianca** and **Caitlin**; brothers, sisters, in-laws, and other relatives request prayers for the repose of his soul.

He lies in state at the Fonacier Family Chapel, 2708 Cabrera Street, Pasay City.

Interment will take place on Tuesday, January 29, 2002 at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

> "From darkness let the light shine!"
> Genesis 1:3

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements. For inquiries, please call **912-9008** to **11**.

TO MONUMENTO
EDSA
TO MAKATI
TO QUIAPO
TO STA. MESA
AURORA BOULEVARD
TO MARIKINA
STELLA MARIS COLLEGE
SITE
ST. ANTHONY'S BUILDING # 801 AURORA BOULEVARD, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
ISETANN DEPT. STORE
FARMER'S PLAZA
ARANETA ASTRODOME
RUSTANS
N

People, Events & Products

aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Aries Espinosa, Editor

Our Lady of Fatima visits RP

THE INTERNATIONAL Pilgrim Virgin Statue of our Lady of Fatima has traveled all over the world since 1947. Proclaiming her message of peace, Our Lady of Fatima is now here in the Philippines.

The history of the statue began in 1946. Jose Thedim, sculptor of the statue, considered it as a "pilgrim statue." Many devotees gathered to pray at this miraculous masterpiece.

Physical and spiritual cures, favors, signal graces and enlightenment of the soul were so numerous from the beginning that even the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII recalled having crowned the statue in 1946 for performing miracles that the eyes could surely see.

Also known as the "Weeping Madonna", the statue has reportedly shed tears on numerous occasions. An instance was in her New Orleans tour, wherein she gained much media attention. It was believed that the manifestations of 1972 were related to the tragic legalization of abortion.

The schedule of the remaining visits of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima are: at the Edsa Shrine on Jan. 26, Saturday; at San Fernando, Pampanga from Jan. 27-30; at the San Sebastian Cathedral in Tarlac City on Jan. 30, Wednesday, for a vigil of the sick infirmed, and marginalized; and at the Tarlac Prison, Radio Maria, and a despedida mass and procession on Jan. 31, Thursday. Our Lady then moves on to the United States on Feb. 1.

NESTLÉ PHILIPPINES, INC.
ICE CREAM DIVISION

NESTLÉ ICE CREAM SIGNS EARLY CBA

The Nestlé Ice Cream division (ICD) recently signed an early collective bargaining agreement with its daily paid union. Under the agreement, union members will receive a P100,000 bonus consisting of a one-time, non-recurring financial assistance of P75,000 and an industrial peace incentive of P25,000. They will also receive an additional P1,250 per month in their salary on the second year of the CBA and another P1,250 per month on the third year. Members will also enjoy various improvements in employees benefits such as burial assistance, sick leave and death-in-harness. Shown from left is Pierre Guinard, executive vice president, with Ian Donald, ICD division manager and Dionisio de la Cruz, daily paid union president, at the CBA signing.

Highlights cops Photoworld Cup 2002

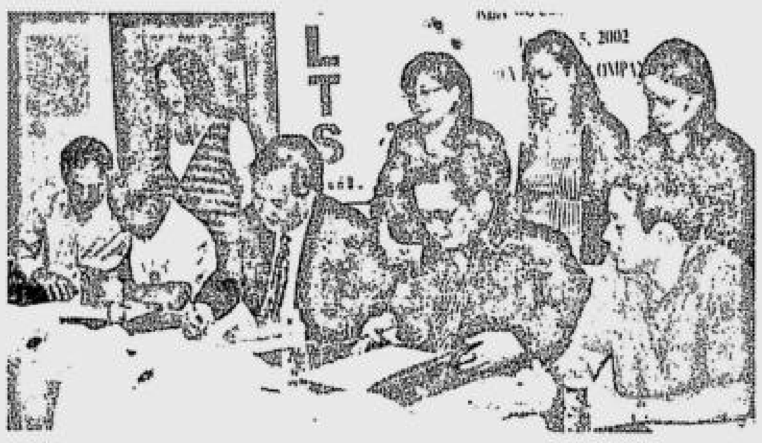
THE HIGHLIGHTS Camera Club is the Photoworld 2002 winner when it won the last photo tilt on the subject "Wired Wired Wireless".

The camera club had grabbed the lead from Alpha Camera Club in the penultimate contest and maintained it in the last round. Alpha, which led from the start until the 6th contest, was dislodged from second place when it was overtaken by the Samahang Litratista sa Rizal in the last round.

Others in the top 10 are Nayon, FSCC, Hubad, Shutterbugs, Prize Photo Club, Infinity and Zone V Camera Club.

In the individual category, Sami De Leon of Highlights won the last contest but Ramon Castillo of the SLR was still the overall leader, and thus capped PWM Cup 2002. De Leon is second and Ferdie Singh of Highlights third. Others in top 10 are Carlo Carlos (Hubad), Cris Reyes (Alpha), Anthony Ocampo (Highlights), Robert Fontanilla (Nayon), Noel Ignacio (Highlights), Chito Cleofas (FSCC) and Raniel Jose M. Castaneda (Alpha).

Photoworld Cup is a yearly photo contest among camera clubs in the Philippines affiliated with the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc.



REX SUPPORTS EDUCATION CONFAB

As part of its commitment to quality education, the Rex Group of Companies has extended its support to the third National Education Conference by promoting the event in its ongoing big-scale seminars for private schools nationwide. The Conference, which is being organized by the Center for Learning and Teaching Styles (CLTS) Philippines, will be held on Feb. 11-12 at the Philippine International Convention Center. The theme of the conference is 'Festival of Learning Styles and Teaching Strategies.' Rex and CLTS are the leading advocates of learning styles, multiple and emotional intelligences in Philippine schools. Shown (from left) is lawyer Ernesto Salao, head of the Rex legal office; Juanito F. Fontalera, president of Rex Group of Companies; Henry S. Tenedero, president of CLTS Philippines; lawyer Dominador D. Buhain, president of Rex Book Store Inc.; Don Timothy Buhain, assistant vice president of Rex Group. Shown at the back are senior managers of the Rex Group of Companies headed by (from left) Beth Amatong, Maricel Sesdoyro; Girlie Jacala; and Marilou Fernandez. For conference information call the CLTS secretariat at 374-4967 or 936-6790 or e-mail henyo@iconex.net.

THE DIPLOM OF MERI
TO
N. LUC

DIPLOMA OF MERIT

Dr. Lucio C. Tan, chair of the Lucio Tan Group of Companies (second from right), receives the Diploma of Merit from Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Thac Dinh. One of the highest honors given by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to foreign nationals, the citation was conferred on Tan for his practical contributions to the construction of the new Vietnamese Embassy in Manila and his continuing support for Vietnam's mission in the Philippines. Also shown is Nguyen's wife and Carmen Tan (right).

LE CORDON BLEU, FROM SAN MIGUEL

The San Miguel Food Group, makers of well-known brands like Magnolia Chicken, Monterey, CampoCarne, Purefoods, Magnolia Butter and Magnolia Cheese, recently sponsored 'Le Cordon Bleu-Paris in Manila'. Shown are Lindon Price, marketing director of Le Cordon Bleu Australia; chef Neil Paton, chef d'cuisine; Helene Pontejos, San Miguel Food Group's culinary services manager; chef John Power, chef d'patisserie and Roger Bartholomew, president of International Education Specialists of Manila.

Young painter delivers 'first wave' of works

"FIRST WAVE" is Alon de Guzman's first solo art exhibit. Her gouache and watercolor paintings are a surge of vibrant colors, styles, and themes.

Alon de Guzman is a graduate of Fine Arts (advertising) from the University of Santo Tomas, but has mainly worked as a copywriter. She went the rounds in advertising, having worked in account management, art and copy departments. She also tried being an entrepreneur for a time. Realizing that minding a business was not her true calling, she had since worked freelance as artist and writer, and indulging some more in art for art's sake.

A reluctant painter, she started painting again in 1998, and was pleasantly surprised that the talent that had remained dormant for several years was still there. This time, she painted for the love of it and not as an academic requirement. Her first paintings were realistic and intricately detailed still lifes of mundane things: pottery, cupboard, food, and interior scenes. Alon considers "realistic" painting as a rite of passage every artist should go through. She has been experimenting on different styles and her recent paintings have looser, simpler strokes and bolder colors. The works also evoke a sense of "searching" for styles, subjects, heroes, and answers to myths and dreams.

Alon draws inspiration from her travels here and abroad, in Asia and Europe; her own vivid visual imagery; her mind's meanderings on life and experiences; interesting pictures; and the ordinary things given a different perspective.

"First Wave" opened Jan. 25 at the Surreala Café in Mother Ignacia corner Timog Avenues, Quezon City. The exhibit runs until Feb. 9. For details, call 411-2424.

Science fair encourages young inventive minds

THE PHILIPPINE Foundation for Science and Technology (PFST), in its dedication to the advancement of natural talents in the country, is happy to announce that at least 50 entries have been submitted by aspiring young scientists all over Metro Manila for the ongoing Aloha Science Fair for Early Childhood. This is a competition designed to enhance the scientific creativity, curiosity and positive mental attitude of children through simple science projects such as simple experiments, science investigations, collections and interactive models.

The competition shows that children, young as they are, are aware of what is happening to their environment, as most entries are focused on the state of the natural environment and the human body.

In the pre-school level, two entries were received, titled "Pet Animals and their Homes" and "My Generation Tree" from San Juan Elementary School and Promiseland Learning Center.

In the grade school level, entries with titles such as "The Alarm System," "Habitat of Animals", "Importance of Plants", "Ang Naglalahong Hayop sa Mundo", "Mga Hayop at Halaman sa Ating Kapaligiran", "Uses of Plants", "Factors that Contribute to Air Pollution", "Cockroach Balls", and "Recycling Candles Out of Coconut Meat", were submitted by students from various private and public schools.

"The rapid scientific and technological developments of today should not be an excuse for us to hinder or neglect the enhancement of our children's creativity and curiosity in discovering answers to their numerous questions about science. This is why we always see to it that each Science Fair for Early Childhood addresses this need," states Leticia Moran-Zerda, director of the Philippine Foundation for Science and Technology.

This year, the Aloha Mental Arithmetic Philippines Inc. joins PFST in the latter's continued search for the best projects displaying young students' ingenuity through the Aloha Science Fair for Early Childhood.

Aloha Mental Arithmetic Philippines Inc. is an applied mathematics program that trains students who enroll in the program to use the left and right sides of their brains in solving basic to complex mathematical problems or computations.

Judging of the entries is scheduled on Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1. All entries will be exhibited at the Riverbanks Mall Science Works in Marikina City from Jan. 30 to Feb. 18.

Internet prepaid card launched

A NEW Internet prepaid card under the brand name Blast is now available.

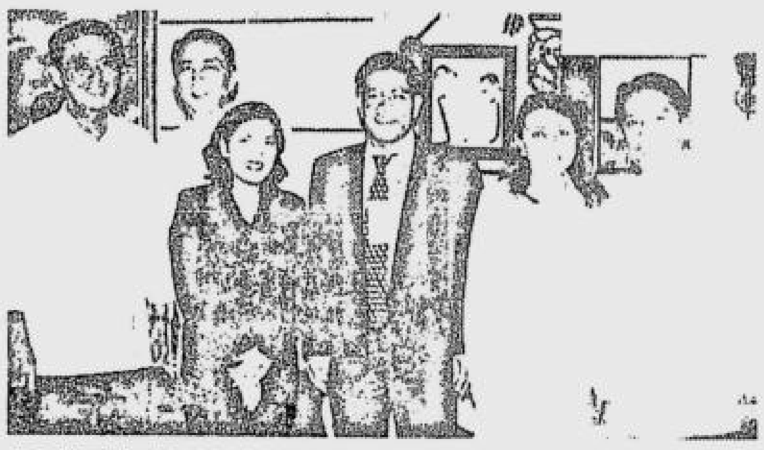
While most Internet prepaid cards are good only for 4 to 6 hours, Blast is being marketed as the affordable Internet prepaid card that gives users as much as 9 hours use for only P100, making it ideal for the student and youth population.

Blast, which is powered by SkyInternet, delivers up to 56 kbps connection speed with no busy signals because of more than 7,000 available lines.

Blast may be found in all major convenience stores, drug stores, gasoline stations and selected retail outlets in the university belt and other campus areas.

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT HOMECOMING

The College of the Holy Spirit High School Class 1977 recently had a class reunion last December. They will celebrate their silver jubilee during the College of the Holy Spirit Alumnae Homecoming at the school campus in Mendiola, Manila on Feb. 3. Shown seated from left are Belle Tiongco and Dada Miranda-Cua. Standing from left are Brigitte Ignacio, Tisha Tiongco-Ambrosio, Choo Lapid, Heidi Nicasio-Manalo, Viqui Torres-del Rosario, Jovie Galan (alumnae coordinator), Malou Martinez-Santos, Odette Silva, and Yvette Marcaida-Poe. Also shown at the last row, from left, are Thelma Mendoza-Valdepenas and Annie Quebral-Faustino. For particulars, alumnae can call Rose at the CHS Alumnae Office at 735-5986 or their batch representatives.



CONTEL SPONSORS SEIPI CONVENTION

Contel Communications Inc., a leader in the trunked radio business, was one of the major sponsors in the Semi-conductors and Electronics Industry in the Philippines Inc. (Seipi) event held at the Rizal Ballroom of the Shangri-La Makati Hotel. The Seipi convention on 'Managing the Downturn, Preparing for the Upturn' was a gathering of all the members of Seipi and other important industry leaders to discuss many different manufacturing and business issues. The keynote address on the topic 'Philippine Competitiveness' was given by DTI Secretary Manuel Roxas III. It was attended by over 500 participants. Contel is the prime choice of Seipi member companies for answering their needs for a reliable, secure, instant and cost-effective mode of communication. Contel shares with Seipi members its drive for total business control. Shown (from left) is Vic Picato (sales supervisor, Contel) with Raymund Albovias (assistant sales manager, Contel), Ruth Mariano (account officer, Contel) Norberto Viera (Texas instruments and Seipi president), Rhia Briz (account officer, Contel) and Joey Manalo (senior account officer, Contel).

Prudential
Life Plan Group Inc

OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR CHARITY

Prudential Life Plan Group Inc., in cooperation with Operation Blessing Foundation, presented recently a fund-raising golf tournament dubbed '2001 Payatas Charity Open Golf Classic' at the Alabang Country Club. Now on its third year, the sports event was organized to benefit the children of scavenger families in Payatas who are part of OB's community development program. Shown are four participating golfers who swung their golf clubs for charity (from left) Tet Verano, vice president of Marketing Campaigns Inc.; Anthony Suntay, Viva sports broadcaster; Jacob Redondo, product engineer of Intel; and Mike Chipman, operation manager of AM-Asia Consultancy and Trading Inc. Hole sponsors were ABS-CBN, Alpha Omega Foundation, Amici Hans Brumann, Citra Metro Manila Tollways, Coffeemate, Custom Clubmakers, Pizza Hut, H.B. Lotilla Construction Co. Inc., La Cremeria, Nescafe Gold, Omega Plus, Rogin-E, SRC and Swire Travel Philippines.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Cesar D. Mangawang, Editor ▪ Stella O. Gonzales, Assistant Editor

Should we be afraid of the polio vaccine?

By Charles E. Buban

What if the vaccine intended to save us from polio is actually a trigger for a much deadlier disease? This is a nightmare no individual would like to find himself in.

When scientists found that early lots of polio vaccines contained a simian virus (of monkey origin) that could trigger a variety of cancers in humans, suspicions began to surface on how well manufacturers screened their vaccines from this stealthy menace.

The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has assured the public that today's monkey cell cultures used to produce the oral polio vaccine are checked thoroughly to assure that simian virus 40 (SV40) is not present. This virus occurs naturally in some monkey species but does not typically cause symptoms or illness except in cases where the monkey has chronic problems with its immune system.

The CDC maintains that the screening methods used today are sensitive enough to detect all strains of SV40. In addition, huge amounts of oral polio vaccine have been periodically tested after 1963 using the most sensitive assays available and the virus has never been detected.

But in July 2001, a San Francisco Chronicle article raised the possibility that SV40 might still be lurking in many polio vaccine lots today despite a decades-old ruling ordering manufacturers to remove the virus from their vaccine product.

Not completely removed?

The Chronicle obtained internal memos from Lederle Laboratories, the chief producer of polio vaccine in the United States, indicating that SV40 was found in three of 15 lots of the oral vaccine seven months after a federal directive was issued in March 1961. The same memo showed that Lederle released the vaccines to the public despite the findings on contamination.

The documents also suggested that the company failed to test for contamination the monkey kidney seed strains used to make bulk polio vaccine, despite a written warning from Dr. Albert Sabin, who developed the oral vaccine in 1959.

Another document showed that Lederle, in compliance with the removal order, had switched from rhesus monkeys, which are natural hosts for SV40, to African green monkeys, which are supposedly free from SV40. However, the memo noted that SV40 was still found in 10 percent of the green monkey cultures.

The documents were obtained by Philadelphia lawyer Stanley Kops in a litigation case not related to SV40.

But Lederle and the US government insisted there was no evidence that any contaminated vaccine was distributed after the directive went into effect.

POLIO VACCINE
JED E.

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

Last year, two investigators from the US Food and Drug Administration used genetic testing to examine 30 samples of bulk oral polio vaccine used in the United States that went back to 1972.

They found no SV40.

Dr. William Egan, deputy director of the FDA's vaccine research branch, said testing went back only to 1972 because those samples were the only ones available to them.

The early polio vaccines of the 1950s and early 1960s were grown from monkey kidney cell cultures, particularly from rhesus macaque species. When SV-40 was discovered in 1960 as a contaminant in Salk polio vaccines, researchers did not know yet if the virus had any negative effect.

Many viruses that harm animals have no effect on humans because of the biological differences between them. Since SV40 comes from monkeys, the virus is generally not considered harmful to humans. Consequently, between 1954 and the early part of 1963, about 10 to 30 million individuals were inadvertently exposed to live SV40 when they were administered with SV40-contaminated polio vaccines.

Cancer-causing?

It was only in 1960 when government researcher Bernice Eddy discovered that hamsters injected with the kidney mixture on which the vaccine was cultured had developed tumors. That same year the US government required all polio vaccines to be free of SV40 as a precaution.

In more recent studies, it was shown that SV40 DNA is present in some tumors of people and has been detected in rare cancers in humans, including:

- Mesothelioma, a fatal tumor of the membrane surrounding the lungs. Few cases were reported prior to 1950, but the incidence increased in the United States to 4,000 cases a year, with a higher incidence in Europe.
- Brain cancers: primarily ependynomas and choroid plexus tumors, but also astrocytomas, glioblastomas, medulloblastomas and meningiomas. Fewer than 1,000 cases of these cancers are reported in the United States each year.
- Bone cancers: primarily osteosarcomas, but also chondrosarcomas and giant cell tumors. These also make up fewer than 1,000 cases annually although many people who were vaccinated with the contaminated vaccines reported no SV40-related tumors.

Link not determined

Although an association between SV40 and certain types of cancer had been found, the CDC emphasized that it had not yet been determined that SV40 caused these cancers.

In fact, since the discovery of the virus in 1960, several studies have shown that there was no increased incidence of certain cancer types in persons who may have received the vaccine containing SV40.

Until now, no one really knows the long-term effects of SV40 on humans. But a growing number of medical researchers are calling for further studies. With 200 vaccines in the pipeline, more than 100 in clinical trials and scores on the brink of being licensed, vaccine research had "better get back to basic science before another disease is created in the laboratory," they warned.

Discovering the vaccine

Polio, short for poliomyelitis, has been around since ancient times. It is a viral infection that may lead to paralysis and death. The disease, whose early symptoms are like the flu, struck mostly children, although adults caught it, too. The virus is commonly spread through the fecal-oral route.

Since the 1900s there had been cycles of epidemics, each of which seemed to get stronger and more disastrous. Although the development of polio vaccines had begun as early as the 1900s, they all failed partly because researchers did not know there was more than one virus that caused the debilitating disease.

For a vaccine to be effective, it had to give immunity against all the three strains. It was this knowledge that helped Jonas Salk develop the first vaccine against polio. Salk also took monkey kidneys to culture abundant quantities of polio virus necessary to mass-produce a vaccine.

"A vaccine works this way: if your body is exposed to a very weak or small amount of the virus, your body will produce antibodies or chemicals to resist and kill the virus. Then when a full-strength version of the disease virus comes along, your body is now prepared to fight it," explains Dr. Fem Julia Palladin, a virologist at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine.

Not strong enough

While Salk used "killed" virus another scientist experimented on "live" virus.

Albert Sabin didn't think Salk's killed-virus vaccine was strong enough so he used a weakened form of the live virus. He experimented with more than 9,000 monkeys and 100 chimpanzees before isolating a rare form of poliovirus that would reproduce in the intestinal tract but not in the central nervous system.

His vaccine, which was administered orally, was licensed in 1962 and quickly became the vaccine of choice. It was cheaper to make and easier to take than Salk's injectable vaccine.

Without oral polio vaccine, the World Health Organization said, hundreds of thousands of children in the world would be crippled each year by the "wild" polio virus.

"I believe OPV is more effective than the injectable version in eradicating wild polio virus. Although there are advantages and disadvantages associated with both methods, what sets OPV apart is its reasonable price which could sustain the mass immunization campaign of the government," says Palladin.

The WHO Western Pacific Region to which the Philippines belongs was certified polio-free in October 2000. However, the country is still at risk from wild polio virus importation from endemic countries and the only way to prevent this is to ensure that every Filipino child up to 59 months old be given OPV. The WHO has goals to eradicate polio completely in the first decade of the 21st century.

Making vaccines

IN 1949, researchers established that the poliomyelitis virus could be grown in cultures of human embryonic and adult nonnervous tissues. They later discovered that monkey tissues, particularly in the kidneys, were also a good culture medium for the development of the virus for vaccine production.

Testing on animals, especially those that are closely related to humans such as monkeys and chimpanzees, gave researchers a good idea about the safety and efficacy of their vaccine before giving the vaccine to humans.

Today however only a small population of animals are used for this purpose and they are used mainly to provide tissues for culture. In some cases, it has been possible to replace cultures made from fresh tissues with cultures of cell lines.

Safety testing

Every vaccine undergoes safety testing before it is released, and manufacturers are required to list the contents of the vaccine for the US Food and Drug Administration.

Under strict supervision of the FDA, vaccines are tested by pharmaceutical companies throughout the development and manufacturing process and after the vaccine is licensed and made available for use.

There are two types of vaccine for polio: inactivated (killed) polio vaccine (IPV) and the oral polio vaccine (OPV).

The IPV, which is injected, is prepared using dead polio virus. The virus is cultured in a lab on a monkey kidney cell and then killed with formaldehyde or other chemicals. The chemicals are removed before the dead virus is added to the vaccine.

The ingestible liquid OPV, on the other hand, is prepared using live polio virus that has been weakened. This form of virus does not have enough strength left to cause the disease. Virus that is used to make OPV is also cultured in a lab using monkey kidney cell and then weakened using chemicals, freezing and dilution before being given to humans as a vaccine.

Virus nurseries

Since polio viruses only multiply inside a cell (to utilize the production processes of the cell and generate further copies of themselves), they can be grown in cell cultures derived from animals.

These animal cells serve as a medium where the polio virus can replicate. The virus-infected cells are then bathed in a "soup" made up of various ingredients like glucose (for energy) and other chemicals such as growth factors (which help the cells develop faster).

Once sufficient numbers of the virus have been replicated, the manufacturers use complex filtration and purification processes to remove as much of the substances other than the viruses from the vaccine. *(Source: National Network for Immunization Information/CDC)*

Cloning saves endangered teak

THERE is hope for the endangered Philippine teak (*Tectona philippinensis*), thanks to cloning.

Through a research by Dr. Minda Follosco-Edmiston, biology professor at the De La Salle University-Manila, cloned teak stem cuttings were recently produced and delivered to Nueva Ecija and Quezon. The cuttings were cloned using regulators that allowed the plants to multiply rapidly.

It normally takes 45 days for the young stem cuttings to form extra roots but recent findings have shown that under favorable conditions, 100 percent of the cuttings could be obtained 21 days after treatment.

Edmiston had been studying the Philippine teak, one of the only three known teak species in the world. Its occurrence had been documented only in Ilin Island, Mindoro and in Lobo, Batangas. To date, it is only in the latter where a few trees and wildlings can be found.

The Philippine teak, which reaches a height of 15 meters and a diameter of 50 cm, is often substituted for molave wood. It is used in the construction of bridges, wharves, railway carriage, ship decks, wood carving, and also in general carpentry. Decoction of the tree's fresh or dried leaves is prescribed for menstrual disorders and hemorrhages.

Inspired by the results of the research project, the Nueva Vizcaya State Institute of Technology (NVSIT) in Bayombong and DLSU-Manila signed a memorandum of agreement for a long-term project called the "Genetic Conservation of the Philippine Teak."

THE PHILIPPINE teak

Under the project, farmers living in a 500-hectare watershed area in Maslog and residents of Vista Hills in Bayombong will plant the cuttings on government-owned forestlands.

In Quezon, Dr. Gil Villancio, research coordinator for teak genetic conservation, has pursued a similar initiative in Real, with funding from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Edmiston's study indicates that in 10 years, the cloning procedure will keep the Philippine teak from being endangered. And with proper management, teak tree development may yet become a multibillion dollar industry.

Aneuploidy: chromosome changes and cancer

By Massie K. Santos
Contributor

THE WORD cancer brings up images of pain, loss, hospital stay, expensive (and sometimes useless) treatments and death.

In response, the public demands information about preventing the possibility of contracting the illness. Reports about new methods for diagnosing specific types of cancers, new methods of treating cancer and newly established possible causes of cancer come out almost every day.

The most widely accepted theory holds that cancer is caused by exposure to carcinogens which in turn cause normal genes to mutate for reasons that have yet to be fully understood and become oncogenic thus causing tumors to form. But when it comes to asking what a carcinogen is, it may be easier, and faster, to identify what a carcinogen is not.

Carcinogens are the substances that cause cancer, and the list of suspected and proven items runs the gamut from nicotine, to artificial sweeteners such as saccharin, aspartame and sucralose, to genetically engineered foods, talcum powder, estrogen, wood dust and lead. While not all the items on the list have been conclusively proven to cause cancer (conflicting studies on various items have left several matters undecided, others on the list are there simply by unfounded rumor) others like cigarette smoke have long been firmly established as carcinogenic.

The average consumer may well find it easier to simply consider all substances as possible causes of cancer (one may well reason that the genes will mutate anyway—and don't forget the other illnesses like diabetes, osteoporosis, and heart and liver diseases) and just live as he pleases instead of trying to live a completely healthy lifestyle.

There is another theory about what causes cancer that is slowly gaining supporters. The idea is not new. It was observed in cancers over a half century ago, but then abandoned when a newer, more compelling theory came into play.

Certain viruses had been found to replace "normal" genes with mutated versions, and these viral oncogenes cause tumors. Whether or not cellular oncogenes undergo a similar process has yet to be shown conclusively. New research in the last decade however is causing scientists to rethink the possibility that only mutagens cause cancers, and that the real culprit may be aneuploidy, a condition wherein a cell contains either too many or too few chromosomes.

If mutagens cause cancer, the controversial argument goes, then inserting mutated genes into normal cells should produce cancer cells. Unfortunately, this doesn't happen in all cases. In fact, a good portion of carcinogenic substances has no mutagenic properties and therefore should not cause cancer under such conditions. If they do cause cancer therefore, it must be through an alternative pathway, which is where aneuploidy comes in.

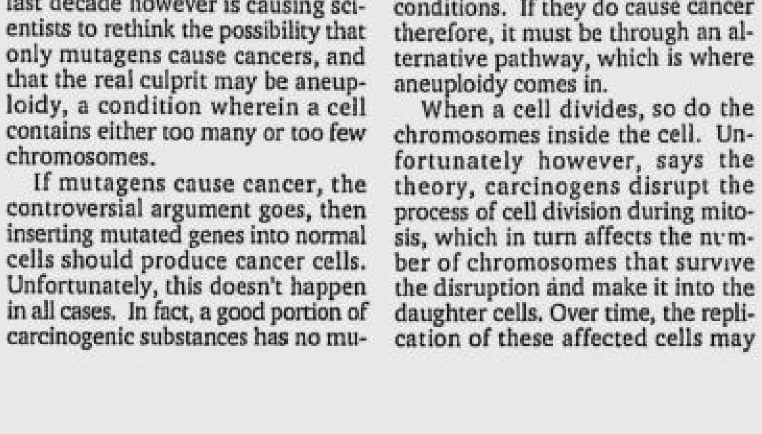


ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

When a cell divides, so do the chromosomes inside the cell. Unfortunately however, says the theory, carcinogens disrupt the process of cell division during mitosis, which in turn affects the number of chromosomes that survive the disruption and make it into the daughter cells. Over time, the replication of these affected cells may lead to further errors—some chromosomes may be copied more than once, while others aren't copied at all. Pieces of the chromosomes may also be missing or attached to a different chromosome.

One of the more common results of chromosomal replication error is Down's Syndrome. According to this theory, however, chromosomal alterations lead instead to the production of tumors.

Aneuploidy would also explain why cancer treatments might fail over time as the disease builds up a resistance to the drugs used against it—the replicated chromosomes had been greatly altered so the cells responded differently. The theory has been supported by studies done by scientists all over the world in recent years. Nearly all tumors have been found to contain chromosomal alterations—evidence of aneuploidy—which has long been held to be the result of cancer rather than the cause of it.

The tumors that do have the correct number of chromosomes in each cell are the ones caused by retroviruses. Other studies tracking protein expression in cancer cells have also found a correlation between varying levels of proteins and aneuploidy, and the inability of a cell to stop replicating itself when it should, or replicate when it ought to, leads to the formation of tumors.

Peter Duesberg, the long-time proponent of the aneuploidy theory earlier detailed, should have won a Nobel Prize two decades ago for his work on oncogenes. He did, after all, isolate the first oncogene by age 33, was tenured at the University of California in Berkeley at age 36, and became a member of the highly select National Academy of Sciences before turning 50. The arguments presented are his, and have been used to show that the accepted cause of cancer—mutagens—is wrong in the sense that it is not the only possibility.

At one time considered one of the most brilliant scientists of his generation, his work isn't given much attention these days because of his research in a different field. For those who don't recognize the name, Peter Duesberg is the man associated with the belief that AIDS is not caused by HIV. Whether or not he will remain the laughingstock of the scientific community, however, remains to be seen.

Community health workers need more support

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERTRODRIGUEZ

AT 60, Dr. Guia Abad—most noted for being the lead advocate of the Magna Carta for Public Health Workers and for reviving the Association of Municipal Health Officers of the Philippines (Amhop)—does not show any signs of resting on her laurels.

The very low profile Dr. Abad has been in public health service for 20 years now. She has been municipal health officer of Sta. Cruz, Laguna, since 1992, and at the same time has been president of Amhop since its rebirth in 1993. Amhop is an organization composed of public health doctors who form the backbone of the country's public healthcare delivery system.

One recent Friday morning, Dr. Abad, using an old typewriter, was preparing letters inviting municipal health officers (MHOs) throughout the country to attend Amhop's national convention set early next year. To raise the standard of public health and improve the delivery of basic health services, Dr. Abad said Amhop intends to bring into one solid association all MHOs of the Philippines as well as promote and safeguard the interest and welfare of its members.

"At the national convention," she said, as she moved her chair away from the typewriter. "We are going to amend our 48-year-old by-laws so that it will be attuned with the present time. We will also take up new projects that are being suggested by health workers that will improve our services for our constituents."

Regular schedule

Like any other HMO, Dr. Abad's regular schedule consists of treating patients (more or less 50 a day in her office), supervising the activities of her staff (consisting of sanitary workers, nurses, midwives and dentists), signing papers and vouchers, and coordinating with nongovernment organizations (NGOs) and volunteer groups like those involving barangay health workers (now also referred to as community health volunteers).

As Amhop president, on the other hand, Dr. Abad calls meetings once every so often, but gathers the Amhop-Laguna Chapter monthly. She's often invited to speak before groups to talk on the rudimentary of public health.

"That's basically our duty," she said, referring to the main responsibility of public health workers, "to inform people on effective disease prevention and management, utilizing affordable and effective healthcare products. There are also other duties. But then in my office, I should have at least five doctors. Unfortunately, I'm alone. There's one DOH representative acting as one of our rural health physicians, but since she's serving six towns, *bihira kaming magkatulungan* (it's seldom that we help each other). Anyway, I am able to maximize my functions with the help of my staff."

Indeed, at first glance, her office desk clutter (her municipal health office is temporarily situated in a former municipal conference room, pending construction of a permanent one as promised by the local government executive; that is, after years of leasing office space.) may have suggested a workaholic individual. But then, workaholic is just one of the many traits that have made her a respected and endearing persona in the public health arena.

"My typical day is always a very busy day because patients in the community, especially those who cannot afford, always flock to our office. It's very unfortunate nowadays because even the provincial hospital doesn't accept outpatient anymore, so *dito rin sa amin bumabagsak* (it is also here where they end up). And because Sta. Cruz is the capital town, *pati 'yung mga hindi ko sakop napupunta sa opisina ko* (even those who are not under me go to my office),"cited the bubbly doctor. "In that case, the selfless dedication and support hundreds of voluntary barangay health workers extend for community health programs has been a lot of help, to think that they only get very meager compensation."

The very dynamic Amhop president receives calls and text messages every now and then from public health workers from all over the country requesting for interpretation of the intent of the Republic Act 7305, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Public Health Workers—whose primary aim is to protect the rights of health workers, the pillars of public health service.

"The salary standardization law," she continued, "is not uniformly given to everybody. Some are selective about it and yet health workers are helpless when at local level most especially if their towns are not well-organized. So *anong ginagawa ng* health workers, *alis na lang* (So what do health workers do, they just leave). We are losing good people in the process. *Talagang sakripisyo maging* MHO (It's really a sacrifice to be an MHO). But then in our case when we have problems, we meet to help each other. That's where Amhop comes in."

Concerns

MHOs also ask for clarifications on issues brought about by the devolution.

"The main concern, of course, is the disparity in the implementation of that law," cited Dr. Abad, "and that is because the poorer municipalities have difficulty in implementing the law because of financial constraints. But then you should also consider that health has never been a priority of many local executives. *Madalang na popondahan ng malaki ang* health services (It's seldom that health services get big budget) because most local executives are into infrastructure, something solid. But they don't realize that the greatest foundation or resource of the community are the people."

The second main concern of MHOs, she said, has been the rapid turnover of health workers, a result of the devolution, wherein being under the local executive "can be a blessing or a curse." It becomes a blessing, the doctor explains, when a particular local government executive is open-minded and intelligent and really concerned with the health of the people, and a curse when apathetic.

"A lot of health workers leave, especially doctors, because sometimes the mayors don't realize how valuable a public health doctor is," she observed. "And that our orientation is different from hospital doctors. Most doctors out there are there to earn and treat; ours is to prevent people from getting sick. It has also been more difficult to organize health workers, with the devolution, because we'll have to face up to different executives. There are also a lot of incidents when the existing health workers are harassed into resignation or transfer so the local politician can accommodate their kind, their supporters."

But then, that aspect regarding the local government executive is still just one side of the coin, for how can one distressed municipality or town fund its own health projects? It definitely needs budgetary support from the national government, stressed Dr. Abad.

The multiawarded provincial doctor said another reason Amhop is calling on the convention is to raise municipal health officers' concern to the call of the departments of interior and local government and of health on local government units to provide enough budget specifically for buying vaccines. "*Yung ibang bayan nga 'di makabili ng* paracetamol, *'yun pa kayang bakuna? (The other towns can't even buy paracetamol, what more with the vaccine?)* So what happens to health programs now? The national government itself seems not to realize that they have to fund health services. Right now, they are all geared toward privatization and corporatization, which is the same thing," she added.

Devolution

Dr. Abad said she believes in devolution, only in the sense that the idea of devolution should only apply to communities that are prepared and ready for it. Unfortunately, she cited, that in the Philippines, only 20 percent are prepared for devolution.

"We've been through the birth pains of devolution and I think we're survivors. But for those poorer towns that cannot cope with devolution, we already talked to the national government about that," she added, "and lobbied for that, but then again our government is not really deciding for the sake of the people. Most of the policies and decisions of the national government are not because they are necessary for the people but because they are dictated upon. Still our expectation is for those in the national government not to say 'no dole-outs,' when 60 percent of the Filipino people cannot afford health services."

Unresponsive

Dr. Abad pointed out that the MHOs are the ones who have a better understanding of the people's health needs, but then the national government misses out on consulting with the grassroots level in the planning. She added that this failure of the government to coordinate on the community level makes it unresponsive to the health needs of the people.

In a nutshell, being an MHO may, indeed, entail real great sacrifice, said Dr. Abad, but the greatest challenge should be within the public health doctor in the field being worthy of being called a public servant.

"I always tell younger colleagues during dialogues on travels," said the very straightforward public health servant, "please, if you don't have the heart and stamina to be a public health worker, get out of the service."

Proof indeed

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chuc

A MOST thoughtful gift last Christmas came from my friend Joanne Lim, who enclosed a pair of tickets for David Auburn's Pulitzer- and Tony-award studded play "Proof." I had read rave reviews in an international mathematics journal a year ago, and had remembered wishing that "Proof" would be staged on our shores. I had immediately dismissed the thought, assuming that a drama based on number theory would never find its way here. I was mistaken. Last Sunday, my husband and I were avid members of an audience who laughed obligingly at every humorous turn, grew quiet at every nuance of melodramatic pathos, and were properly shocked at the psychological-thriller-like twist right before intermission. Perhaps the best proof that audiences were attentive every minute was the fact that I heard no beep or ringing tone throughout the two-and-a-half-hour production.

Twenty-five-year-old Catherine (Lea Salonga, refreshing even when she substitutes curse words for tuneful melodies) was haunted by more than five years of taking care of a schizophrenic father (what else do you call someone who borrows books for the sole purpose of decoding messages based on their Dewey decimal systems). Her father (Michael de Mesa, at times downright eerie), a brilliant but eccentric mathematician at the University of Chicago, has recently died, plunging Catherine into deep depression. Her sister Claire (Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo, who should very likely consider a career in comedy) arrives from New York to "set things right," but in the tradition of great drama, manages to screw things up even more.

And what would a play about a mathematician be without the ubiquitous graduate student? Hal (Joel Trinidad—I think he is the son of Noel) reportedly adores his mentor. He avows that the professor resurrected his Ph.D. (and the appointment and contacts and conferences which go with it), and tells an unbelieving Catherine that he loves her dad. To show his fealty, he sets himself the task of decoding 103 notebooks the old man feverishly scribbled on the years before his death. Perhaps there could be a gem somewhere—some tidbit of a theorem here, a glimmer of a proof there, or even just a tantalizing result. But is Hal really motivated by loyalty, or self-interest, or in the midst of a sudden romance, something else?

"Proof" (directed by Bobby Garcia) will play up to tomorrow at the GSIS Theater. (It was my first time to come here, and except for the lack of stalls at the ladies and the dismal merienda fare, it does not compare badly with Repertory facilities. Also, parking is free!) For the benefit of future playgoers, I will not reveal the plot twists here. Suffice it to say that they are satisfying, and may make you rethink your misconceptions about the nature of mathematics and mathematicians. Here mathematicians are still nerds, but hip nerds, who drink a lot, play in a band, and hold pseudo-orgies at conferences. Is this true? Well, my mathematician friends are quite well-rounded, thank you very much, and are as interested in sports or families or politics or all three as the average person. I have been to several conferences, and the participants do drink a lot, especially with the attraction of free booze, but comparisons to the average bar hopper cannot really be made. Conference sex? Again I have heard intriguing reports from some friends, but again, when randy men and women get together, isn't the outcome almost inevitable?

The secret lives of mathematicians aside, though, I believe that the finer points of "Proof" come from the double *entendres* which are skillfully crafted to appeal to mathematics enthusiasts. A band performance titled "i" (lower-case, please) consists of the members standing silent for three minutes (imaginary numbers, imaginary performance). When Catherine and the ghost of her dead father argue about the logic of crazy people, they run into paradoxes—for example, if crazy people are not supposed to question if they are crazy or not, and a crazy mathematician does so, is he then really crazy, or is there something wrong with the assumption—but simplistic as they may appear to the neophyte, these paradoxes remind us of Godel's warnings. Of course, knowing something about mathematical events helps us appreciate every conversational word-play. For instance, when Hal utters "modular forms and elliptical curves" in his spiel about the significance of these fields to the proof of the famous theorem central to the play, mathematicians cannot help but think of real-life Princeton mathematician Andrew Wiles' proof of the celebrated Fermat's Last Theorem.

Rest assured though that you do not have to be a mathematician (you don't even have to like math very much) to enjoy this play. The stellar performances of the four cast members aside, the twists and turns of the conversation and the many insights they cast into the nature of creativity and genius have the ring of truth. My favorite is the old mathematician's description of his work. To prove a theorem is a painstaking task—you must chip away a little bit here, then a little bit there, rest for a while, and if you do not succeed, then attack it from another angle. To students and teachers who clamor for shortcuts in mathematics, and to others who always prefer the easy way out, this is sobering news. Patience and persistence are the keys to success—trite but true. If the subtle details of the play erode in memory with time, this message is the one I hope audiences will always remember.

* * *

(Queena N. Lee-Chua, Ph.D. is an associate professor of mathematics and psychology at the Ateneo de Manila University. She writes the column "Mind Games" for www.inq7.net every Wednesday. Send your inquiries to her at the Ateneo Math Department, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, or e-mail her at blessbook@yahoo.com.)

The case of the curved spine

By Rafael R. Castillo,MD

MEDICAL FILES

"AND THE WINNER of this night's pageant is none other than contestant number 19!"

Tanya N. could hardly believe when the show host called her number. She was adjudged as the overall winner of the prestigious local beauty pageant.

At the press conference, she thanked the organizing committee of the pageant and all the people who supported her, most especially her mom who inspired and motivated her to pursue her dream of becoming a beauty queen. But what surprised the audience most was the revelation that she used to have scoliosis, an abnormality of the backbone that causes a C-shaped tilting of the body.

Just a dreamer

Five years ago, Tanya was just a dreamer, hoping that one day, she will win the most prestigious beauty pageant in town—despite all the negative comments that she received from people around her. That time, she was already diagnosed as having scoliosis but she promised herself that she would one day be a source of pride in their town.

When she was in fourth year high school, Tanya noticed that her back curved unusually. No one has a spine that is totally straight. If not, one would move like a robot. The backbone really has a normal curvature in the chest and low-back part. A little bit of side-to-side curve is not much to worry about. Tanya's unusual curve in the spine soon developed as a single primary curve that. resembled the letter 'C,' giving her back a peculiar tilt. Soon, some of her prankish classmates started calling her names.

Much to Tanya's disgust, she was dubbed by some of her classmates as *Tanyang tagilid*. They would sometimes call her names even in front of a lot of people and would laugh their lungs out afterward. Because of this, she became utterly shy almost to the point of developing an inferiority complex.

Miserable life

"My mom was well aware of my problem. And she was more worried than me because of the miserable teenage life I was having," confesses Tanya.

After the class was dismissed, Tanya hurried to go home to avoid any confrontation with her prankish classmates. She would then run to her mom's room and would tearfully narrate how some of her classmates teased her. Her mom would patiently listen to her story. The assurance from her mom that she was a beautiful person—in and outoffered her much consolation.

To end all her woes, Tanya was accompanied by her mom to Dr. Rey Ang, a renowned orthopedic surgeon practicing at the Manila Doctor's Hospital. A series of tests were done.

By studying X-rays and using the Cobb angle, the orthopedic specialist can figure out the amount of curvature in degrees. This way of measuring the curve was developed by an American doctor named John Cobb. Each curve is individually classified by its location, shape, pattern and cause. For a spinal curvature to be diagnosed as scoliosis, the curve must measure 10 degrees or greater. If the curve is 10 to 15 degrees, it is considered mild. This means nothing needs to be done, except regular checkups to make sure the curve will not get worse.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERTRODRIGUEZ

Surprisingly, one out of every 10 people from virtually all walks of life has scoliosis. From ordinary people to famous actors and actresses, scoliosis is fast becoming a common back disorder in today's society. Famous American actresses Isabella Rosellini and Sarah Michelle Gellar, the lead star of the worldwide TV hit "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," have scoliosis, but they did not let it stop them from accomplishing great things.

"Actually, millions of people suffer from scoliosis. Majority of the sufferers are women. In fact, women experience scoliosis seven times more often than men," discloses Dr. Ang, reassuring Tanya.

Types

Scoliosis is often categorized as structural or nonstructural. In structural scoliosis, the spine does not only curves from side to side, the vertebrae also rotate, thus twisting the spine. As it twists, one side of the rib cage is pushed outward so that the spaces between the ribs widen and the shoulder blade protrudes which produces the rib-cage deformity or hump. The other half of the rib cage is twisted inward, compressing the ribs. A nonstructural curve does not twist but is a simple side-to-side curve.

"Up to now, no one really knows what causes idiopathic scoliosis. Idiopathic is actually a fancy word for unknown. What I do know is that scoliosis tends to run in families. A person's risk of developing scoliosis increases when a parent has a family background of scoliosis," explains Dr. Ang.

There are other causes of scoliosis, which include a wide variety of disorders. Polio, cerebral palsy, paralysis, osteoporosis and muscular dystrophy may trigger scoliosis.

Scoliosis is also associated with one's skeletal features. In many cases, the back curves to balance the body's weight. More so, uneven legs and shoulder, twisted pelvises and compressed ribs cause the development of scoliosis. Medical researchers have also found out that one's daily activities can contribute to the development of scoliosis. In fact, students who repeatedly carry heavy books and bags often develop abnormalities in the spinal curvatures.

Office workers are also developing back problems due to bad posture and using inadequately designed chairs, which are not considered back-friendly. A study published in a prestigious magazine in the United States found out that bad posture and prolonged use of a computer contribute to functional or mild scoliosis.

Doctor's advice

Tanya's doctor advised her to wear braces to treat the back disorder. Braces stop further curvatures by putting pressure on the back. She was given a full torso brace called the Milwaukee brace. The device uses a wide flat bar in front and two smaller ones in back that attach to a ring around the neck and has rests for the chin and back of the head. Dr. Ang also instructed her to do important exercises to help her back and maintain her posture.

"After this, you would be much more taller than you are today. You would be more beautiful than ever, too," exclaimed her mother.

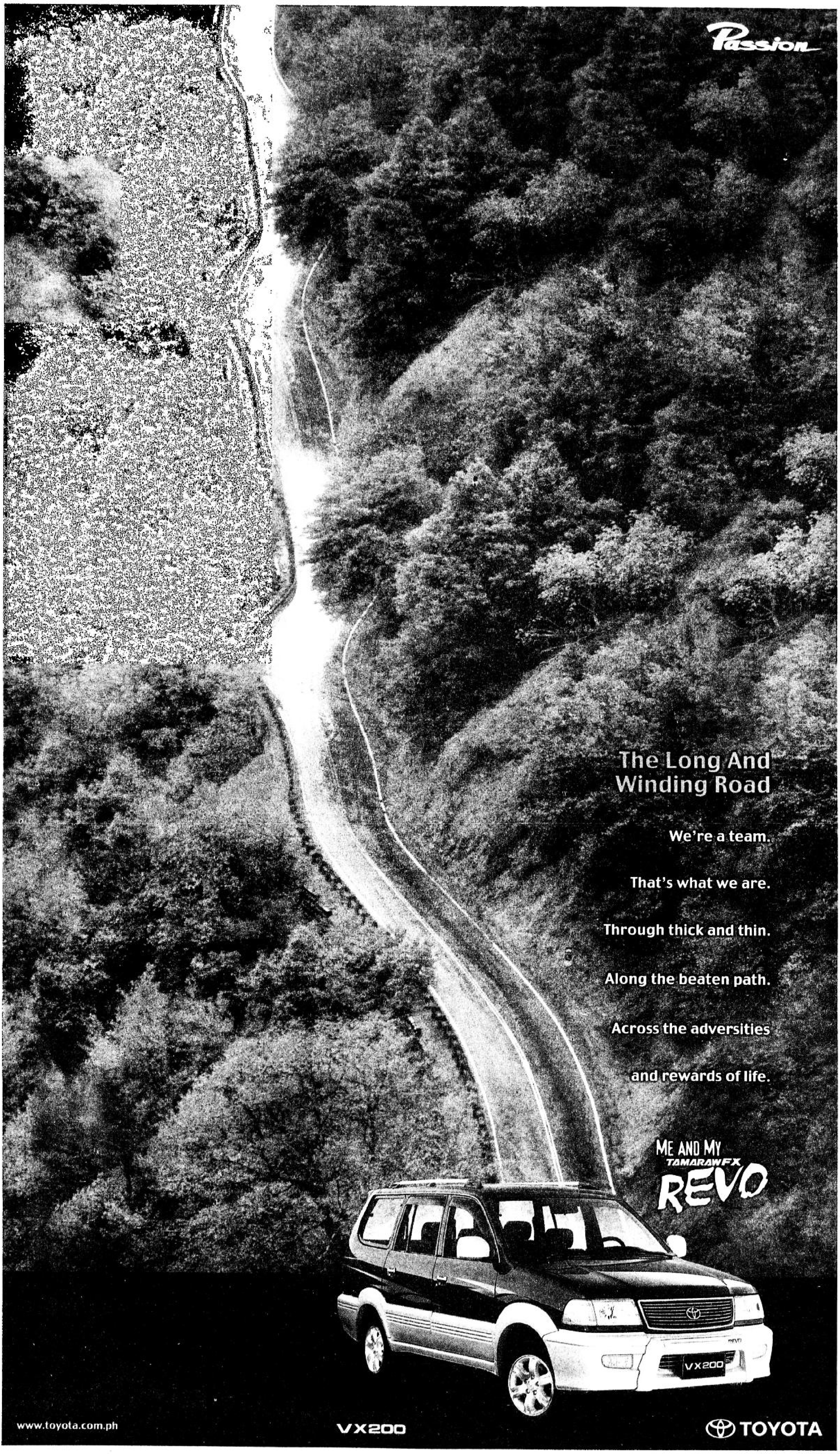
At first, Tanya was reluctant to wear her Milwaukee brace. She thought that wearing it would actually be more of a burden than a treatment because the brace would make her look different from her peers. Nevertheless, with words of encouragement from her family especially her mom, she decided to wear the brace regularly, no matter what her classmates would say.

"It was absolutely an unforgettable experience for me. That time, I needed to wear the brace for most parts of the day. Even inside school premises, I was donning the brace and I felt weird myself," remembers Tanya.

That was five years ago. With the help of Dr. Ang and the support from her family, Tanya's scoliosis was significantly corrected.

In a queenly manner, Tanya waved to the audience as she made the traditional queen's walk on the ramp. She exuded so much charm and poise, a regal bearing befitting a beauty queen. No one would think now she has scoliosis.

(Medical Files is based on the case histories of actual patients. Some information have been changed to hide the patient's identity. Aside from the medical information, it stresses the sociopsychological impact of the disease on the patient. Dr. Castillo is a past president of the Philippines Heart Association/Philippine College of Cardiology. For comments or inquiries, e-mail raffymd@i-manila .com.)


Passion
ME AND MY
TAMARAW FX
REVO
REVO
VX200
VX200
TOYOTA

The Long And Winding Road

We're a team.

That's what we are.

Through thick and thin.

Along the beaten path.

Across the adversities

and rewards of life.

www.toyota.com.ph

SATURDAY Special

Nestor U. Torre, Editor ▪ **Edmund L. Sicam**, Associate Editor

Women filmmakers steal the show at Sundance

UMA Thurman, seen here in a scene from "The Avengers," premiered "Hysterical Blindness," a film she produced, about two women searching for love in the wrong places.

By Bob Tourtellotte

PARK CITY, Utah—Women have stolen the show at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival this week.

Of the more than 170 films presented at the biggest US gathering for American and international independent cinema, 94 were made, produced, written by or starred women, including one named Harry who sports a goatee.

Now if only the Hollywood studios would take notice.

Powers that be

"The powers that be, when it comes time to invest $4 million or $5 million, which is a lot of money with someone they don't know, their first instinct is to go with someone who looks like them," said actress Jodie Foster, whose new movie, "The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys," a drama she produced, premiered here on Friday.

"Basically blacks, Hispanics and women get edged out."

Andie MacDowell, here to support her new film "Crush" about a 40-something woman (MacDowell) who falls in love with a 25-year-old man, recalled meeting a male producer about a screenplay that centers on a woman's role.

"He starts telling me they needed to rewrite the script because they wanted to hire the man first," she said. "I sat there thinking that's bizarre. It's all about the woman . . .

It felt like someone kicked me in the stomach."

Female actors and directors and producers have come to Sundance this year hoping to persuade major studios that a good story, well told, can generate profits for a movie made within a strict budget.

Dark romance

Former Miss Teen USA Charlotte Ayanna sheds her beauty-queen looks to play a down-and-out woman in the dark romance, "Love the Hard Way." Agnes Bruckner stars in "Blue Car," which first-time director Karen Moncrieff described as a girl's coming-of-age story that "I didn't want to sugarcoat."

Last weekend, actress Jennifer Aniston was in town for the debut of "The Good Girl," a dark comedy in which she plays an adulterous wife who just wants a good life for her and her pot-smoking husband.

In the final days at Sundance—the festival ends on Sunday—the gals of the film "By Hook or By Crook," including Harriet "Harry" Dodge and her goatee, were the ones turning heads on the snowpacked streets.

Dodge, a performance artist who wrote, produced, directed and starred in the movie with her friend Silas "Flipper" Howard, said the film was about "people with too much spirit and who seem different to the world."

"I started growing it when I was 20 and I plucked it, because I didn't want to be that person," Dodge said of her facial hair. "But when I let it grow, beautiful women found me attractive. Now, I'm the Miss Hugh Hefner of our scene."

Universal themes

Along with the upstarts, several well-known actresses arrived at Sundance as producers of films that contain universal themes about family, friends and relationships.

Uma Thurman premiered her "Hysterical Blindness," about two single women from New Jersey searching for love in all the wrong men, and Christina Ricci showed off a love story that satirizes the college sorority system, "Pumpkin."

"I don't think of myself as a woman filmmaker, although I am," said Ricci. "I'm not making films just for women."

Heather Morgan, writer, producer and star of "Bark," about a woman who communicates by barking, agreed with Ricci.

"I've always just done the work," she said. "I haven't thought male or female, but what's the story I have to tell."

At Sundance 2002, the term "chick flick" to label films made from the female point of view is fading. That's a good thing, the women said. As good, perhaps as a goatee on a woman. ***Reuters***

FACTORY sale OUTLET

Year-Round sale on Fashion Name Brands

open daily 10am - 9pm

SM CITY MANILA • SM CITY BACOOR • SM CITY NORTH EDSA

Spare us a moment to view our model units and find-out about our flexible payment terms.

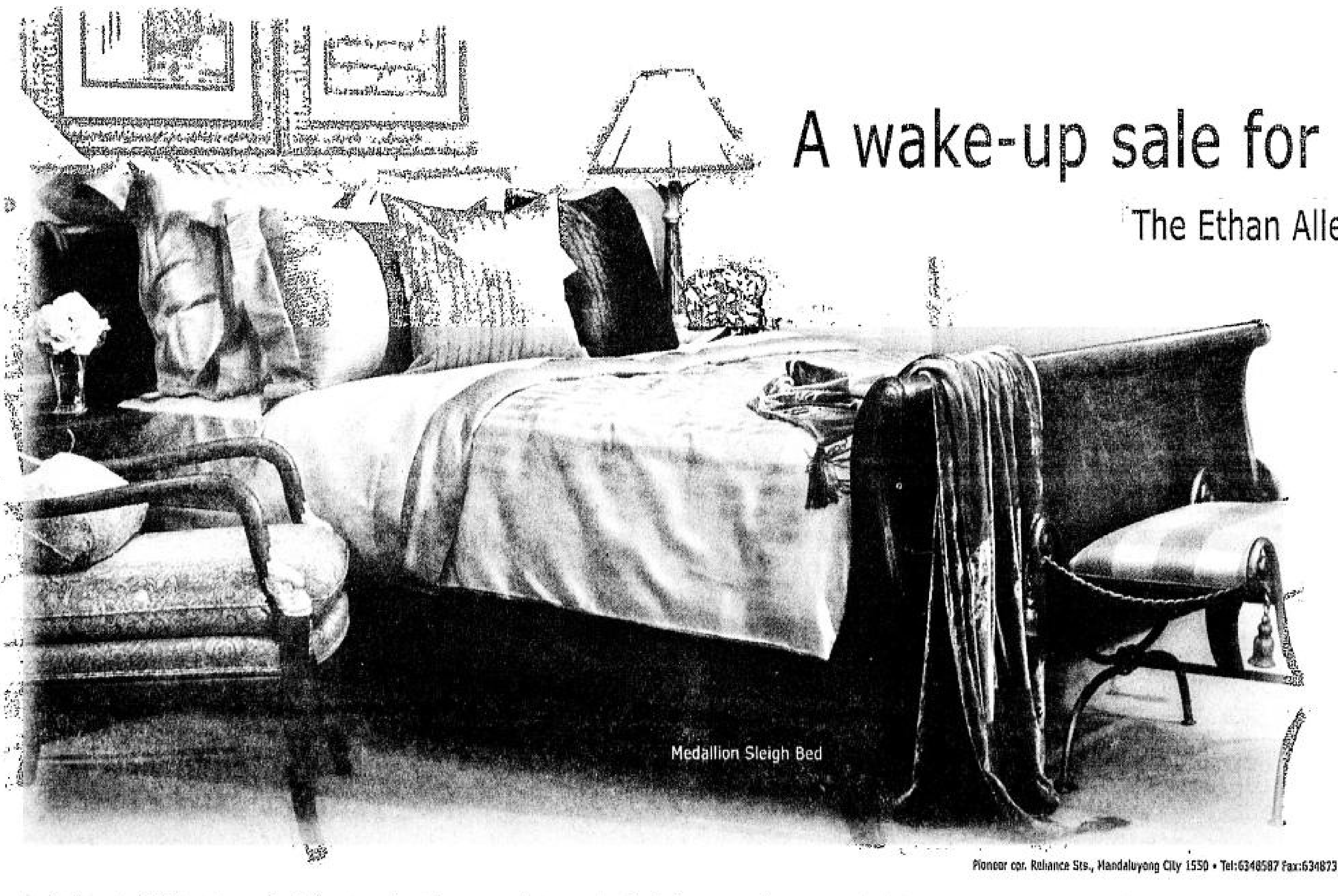
* single-detached homes
* town homes

LEXINGTON
THE CITY'S GARDEN VILLAGE IN PASIG

OPEN HOUSE

LEXINGTON: THE CITY'S GARDEN VILLAGE IS A PROJECT OF GREENFIELD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

[illegible] Lexington [illegible], Elisco Road, near [illegible] St., Pasig City or call us at 631-8651 for more details.



A wake-up sale for 2002!

The Ethan Allen Bedroom Sale

Whether you're renovating or furnishing, you can count on Ethan Allen's collection of new and classic beds and bedroom accessories to give you the look you want for the new year. All at marked-down prices to give you a good start.

20% OFF!
Jan 18 to Feb 17, 2002

ETHAN ALLEN
HOME INTERIORS

www.ethanallen.com.ph

simple finance plan

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO.A3-046 SERIES OF 2002

Exclusively Distributed by Focus Global Inc.
Pioneer cor. Reliance Sts., Mandaluyong City 1550 • Tel:6348587 Fax:6348738 Open on Tues.-Sat.10AM-7PM Sunday 1PM-6PM
Full discounts applicable on cash purchases only.

SNEAK PREVIEW

'Black Hawk Down' gets in the line of fire

By Nestor U. Torre

AT the start of the new war movie, "Black Hawk Down," the US mission to Mogadishu, Somalia in 1993 was a piece of cake. In less than an hour, the attack force of 100 soldiers was expected to achieve its objective, the arrest of some top rebels, with practically no casualties.

Poorly served

But it turned out that the general on top of the mission was poorly served by army intelligence. He was led to believe that there would be no armed opposition to the attack force, However, when the mission was launched, the soldiers involved were shocked to see thousands of armed militia staging a well-organized defense and counterattack.

The Somalian militia even had anti-tank rockets and shoulder-launched missiles that they used to down two big helicopters in the course of the running battle. Only after the first helicopter hit the ground did the general realize that the militia had effectively turned the tide of the battle, and now it was the smug American troops' turn to run for their lives.

Failed mission

Ridley Scott's film does more than mount a documentary-drama restaging of the failed mission. It also shows how the American military's macho sense of superiority not only turns off people abroad, but also results in the death of the best and youngest of its troops.

True enough, after this tragic debacle, the United States retracted its warlike talons and rethought its position vis-a-vis the rest of the world.

HARTNETT. No gloss.

"Black Hawk Down" teaches that debacle's vivid and shocking lesson all over again, but director Scott makes sure that the movie doesn't remain locked on the thematic and "message level.

Faceless soldiers

He pervades his actors (Josh Hartnett, etc.) to junk their usual stellar gloss and ego, and come across as ordinary and even faceless soldiers who are shocked to find themselves fighting for their lives. This play is so effective that it takes a long time before we recognize Ewan McGregor as one of the rookies.

This shift in performance thrust adds mightily to the film's sense of realism and lack of show biz artifice. The members of the movie's cast often appear to be *living* their parts instead of merely performing them.

In addition, Scott gets his cameras in the line of fire, as it were. Instead of merely observing the action, Scott's cameras put viewers in the trapped soldiers' place, so the battle gains greater texture, depth, terror and significance.

The combination of all these innovative approaches makes "Black Hawk Down" a daunting, in-your-face viewing experience. The second one soldier survives a moment of danger, the film zeroes in on yet another trooper in crisis, until we get to experience many of the soldiers' terrors in a relentless montage of conflicting emotions.

Dualities

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

DURING ancient times, one strong king was enough to act as executive administrator, judge, military leader and legislator. Today, many world leaders are unable to fulfill even one role responsibly and respectably.

Right choices

The democratic system of government allows the majority to choose their leader. Unfortunately, the majority does not always make the right choices.

* * *

A fallen president declares that not in his wildest dreams did he see that he would suffer such a humiliating downfall. He must have been living too much in his dream world. Now, he has awakened from his slumber. This is a blessing for him.

* * *

What is seen as a downfall in material life can actually be the start of a more humble existence.

Real friend

When one is deserted by friends and relatives, he can realize that his real friend is the Lord of Love, who will never abandon him. If he surrenders to the Supreme Lord, then he experiences the greatest achievement and fulfillment in life.

* * *

The greatest power in the world is to change people's hearts from being lovers of mammon to being lovers of the Supreme. And the greatest leader is the sage who brings people out of materialistic hellish life to the enlightened world of spirituality.

Frustrated

This material world is characterized by duality—heat and cold, happiness and distress, honor and dishonor, etc. Those who cling to one side and detest the other side are bound to be frustrated.

* * *

Honor and dishonor are just two sides of the same coin. They come and go. One time, you are applauded; next time, you are ostracized. The best rise above such dualities and simply desire to be pleasing to the Supreme Lord.

Hearts

Revolutions change the faces in the government but they do not change the hearts of people.

* * *

It's easy to criticize those who have done wrong while watching from the sidelines. It's a real challenge to do the job yourself!

* * *

Those who selfishly aspire to occupy seats of power are amply rewarded with the heavy burden of anxieties and karmic reactions.

* * *

The crown of a ruler is very heavy on the head of a weak leader.

* * *

The wise can see through the antics and gimmicks of a charlatan. The pseudo leader makes a clown of himself when he acts ignorantly and arrogantly.

Loyalists

(From page C4)

They're always there for me. In good times, they're at a distance, never obtrusive—but I always derive from their presence the feeling that everything's fine with my world. In bad times, they always know when I need them. They have willing ears to listen, strong shoulders to cry on, and an inexhaustible source of homespun wisdom whenever I need advice to resolve some personal problems.

Battles

They've fought battles for me, as they've also quietly shed buckets of tears whenever I'm down and out, and cheer their throats dry whenever I need that extra push to scare all my deep-seated insecurities away.

Tomorrow, I'm going to join my loyalists once more at another get-together to be held in Giso and Jo's *chichirya* factory in Octagon Subd., Bo. De la Paz, Pasig City. We'll break bread, exchange memories and share a life well lived and worth living—because I have them.

To all my loyalists—I hope I didn't miss anyone!—thank you very much. I only have a short list of friends. Your names will forever be on it!

Tomlinson

SALE up to 40%
Jan 19-Feb 3

From Elegant Mansions to Your Home:
FINE CHINESE ANTIQUE FURNITURE

40 Jupiter St. corner Paseo de Roxas Ave.
Bel-Air Village, Makati City
Tel. no. 890-9302, 895-7618

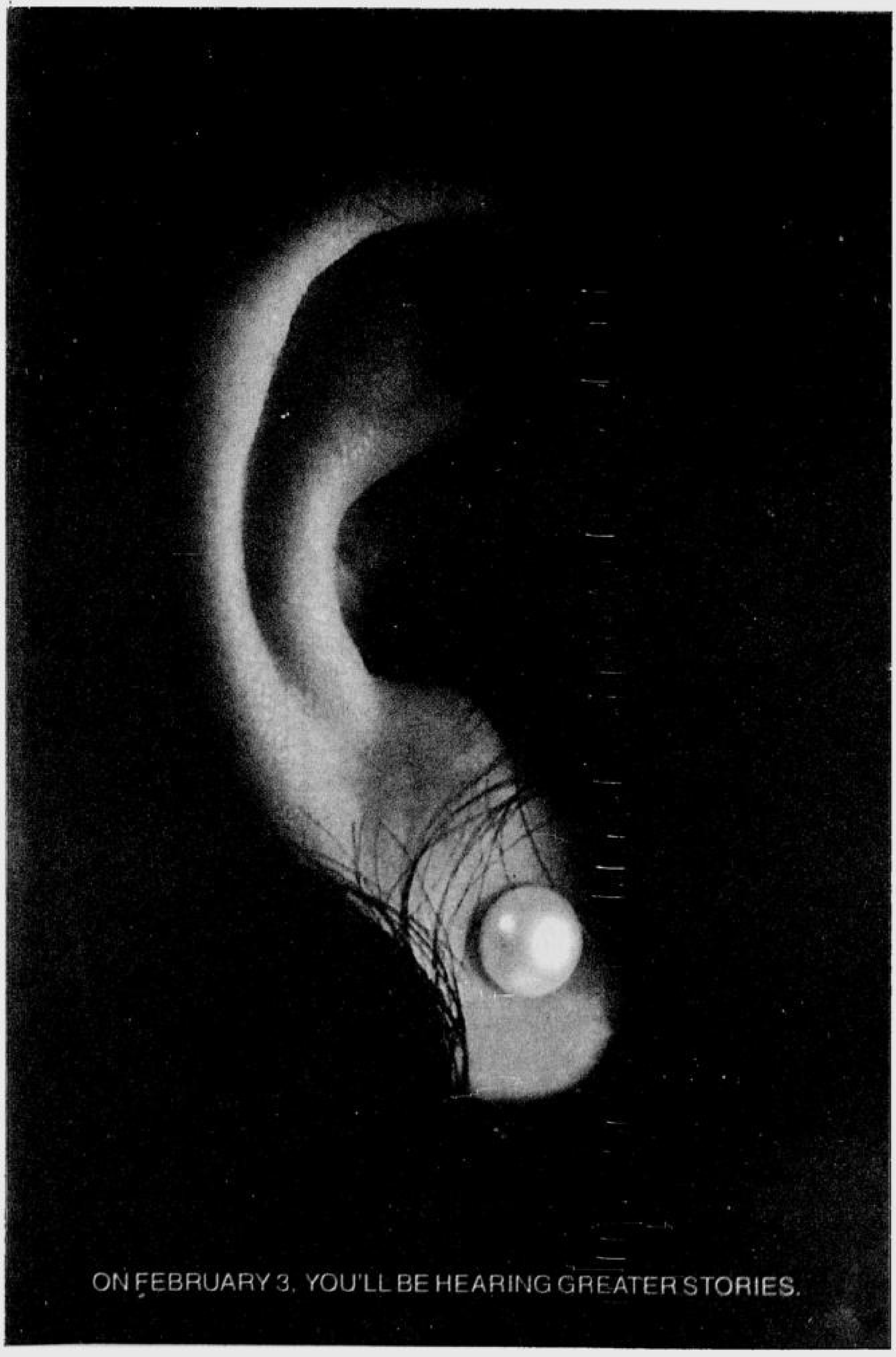
Sunday INQUIRER magazine
Centrum Complete from A to Zinc
present

May mga istoryang ilaladlad
na baka di mo alam...

SINO KA BA JOSE RIZAL?

A Musicat Musical
Words & Music: Nonoy Gallardo
Book: Rene Villanueva
Direction: Helen Dabao
Music Direction: Jesse Lucas

Music Museum, Greenhills
tel:7216726
Playdates: Jan 24/25/26/31 Feb 1/2•3pm/8pm
For tickets call:
7217229/ 7231765 / 7231845/ 09174388807/ 09173897001
CD available at the lobby
in cooperation with:
98.7 dzFE
Green Cross
CAP College Assurance Plan
gift gate
DUNKIN' DONUTS
RX93.1
AVON
TOKYO TOKYO



'Hesus, Rebolusyonaryo' is a wake-up call for the youth

By Edmund L. Sicam

THE YEAR is 2011. The setting is the Philippines. Chaos and anarchy reign. Once again, martial law has been imposed. There are rumblings of discontent among the citizenry and the threat of a revolution is in the air. This is the backdrop of Lav Diaz's latest picture, "Hesus, Rebolusyonaryo," a pessimistic view of what lies ahead for the country.

Vision

Diaz, however, sees it differently. "It's a wake-up call for the youth. *Dapat mag-ingat sila. I-*prioritize *yung kalagayan ng bayan, pag-aralan ang kasaysayan, para magkaroon ng* vision. *Kasi kung hindi,* chaos, it's gonna happen."

His main concern is for the youth to regain their idealism for he believes that this is what can save the country.

In the title role as Hesus Mariano is controversial actor Mark Anthony Fernandez. The role of Hesus is based on the characters of Ibarra/Simoun in Jose Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo." "I used Mark as Hesus, a sacrificing person, a man of vision. It's a call for new heroes," explains Diaz. The other actors in the cast are Donita Rose, as Mark's love interest, Joel Lamangan, Ronnie Lazaro, Orestes Ojeda, Marianne dela Riva, Lawrence Espinosa, Arvin Jimenez, Dido dela Paz, Pinky Amador, Ricardo Cepeda, Richard Joson and Bart Guingona.

Historical events

Diaz makes use of actual historical events in his futuristic piece. *"Ginamit ko yung nangyari nung* '90s *sa* Left, *na nagkaroon ng* purging. *Iyon ang* start *ng kuwento."* Other events happening in the backdrop are threats of a revolution from a reformist group in the military, trouble from a secessionist Muslim group, and a dictatorship that everyone is trying to topple.

Diaz chose to bring back the martial law days of the '70s to remind Filipinos of how it was before. "*Kailangan maibalik yung alaala. Nakalimutan na, e!*" he bemoans. "*Walang alaala ang Pilipino! Nakalimutan na ang ginawa sa atin ni* Marcos, ng mga Japanese, 300 years of Spain, *di na natin sinisingil ang Espanya sa ginawa sa atin. Si* Erap, *halos nalimutan na rin."*

Diaz feels that this lack of a sense of history is what could lead to our downfall. In bringing these events back into the viewers' consciousness, he hopes to light the spark that will help them to learn the lessons of the past.

Questions

Although all these events are happening at the same time, the story focuses on Hesus, a young revolutionary, who questions his position in the movement after he is asked to liquidate his comrades in the movement. Diaz says that the movie ends much like "Noli Me Tangere," with an ambiguous conclusion.

MARK ANTHONY AND DONITA. Lead stars of "Hesus."

Diaz reveals that this movie was made especially for Mark Anthony Fernandez. He was glad that no conditions were imposed on him for the story. And when he presented the story to Regal, it was met with approval. "That's the good thing with Mother. *Malaya ka sa kuwento. Gusto lang niya, magtrabaho ka sa sistema niya*—one month *lang,* here's the budget," Diaz recounts. "That's okay for independents like us. *Maganda na nga iyon! Saan ka maghahanap ng limang milyon? Ang hirap no'n!"*

Organic approach

"Hesus, Rebolusyonaryo" runs for 1 hour and 51 minutes, unlike Diaz's previous film, "Batang Westside" (which is set to be released in May), which runs for five hours! Diaz was kidded about the movie's overly long viewing time. Diaz explains, "Ang *sistema ko ng* filmmaking, organic. *Pagdudugtungin ko lang. Kung* one hour *siya,* one hour. *Kung* five hours, five hours. *Nabubuhay siya ng sarili niya e.* No manipulations. *Sa* editing *talaga."*

Marketing

Reporters discussed with Diaz the difficulties "Batang Westside" would face in terms of marketing. With five hours running time, the movie can only be shown twice in one day. Plus, would people actually be willing to sit in a moviehouse for five hours straight? "Specialized marketing *lang iyon,"* answers the director. "We'll find the market. Create it. *Pag* art films, *ganoon, e. Ang* problem *kasi,* we don't have that culture here. We have to develop that."

Diaz predicts that it will be five years before they can get any financial returns on "Batang Westside." *"Kasi wala ngang kulturang ganoon dito. I-ke-*create *natin iyon."*

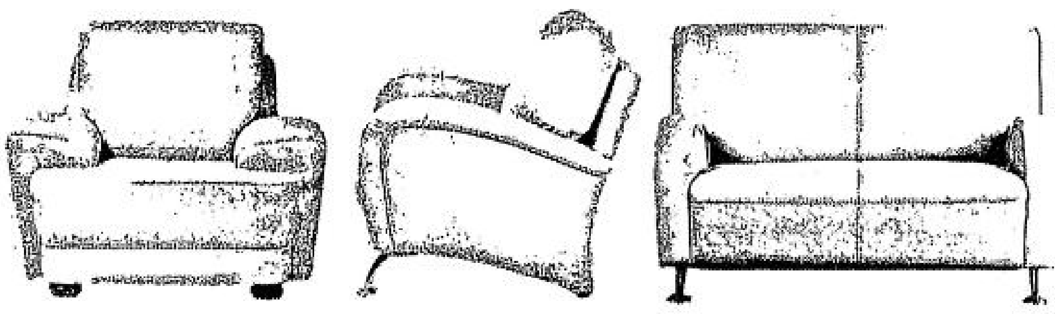
Diaz isn't worried that his target audience, the masses, will not get to watch his films primarily because of financial constraints. He believes that they will catch up eventually.

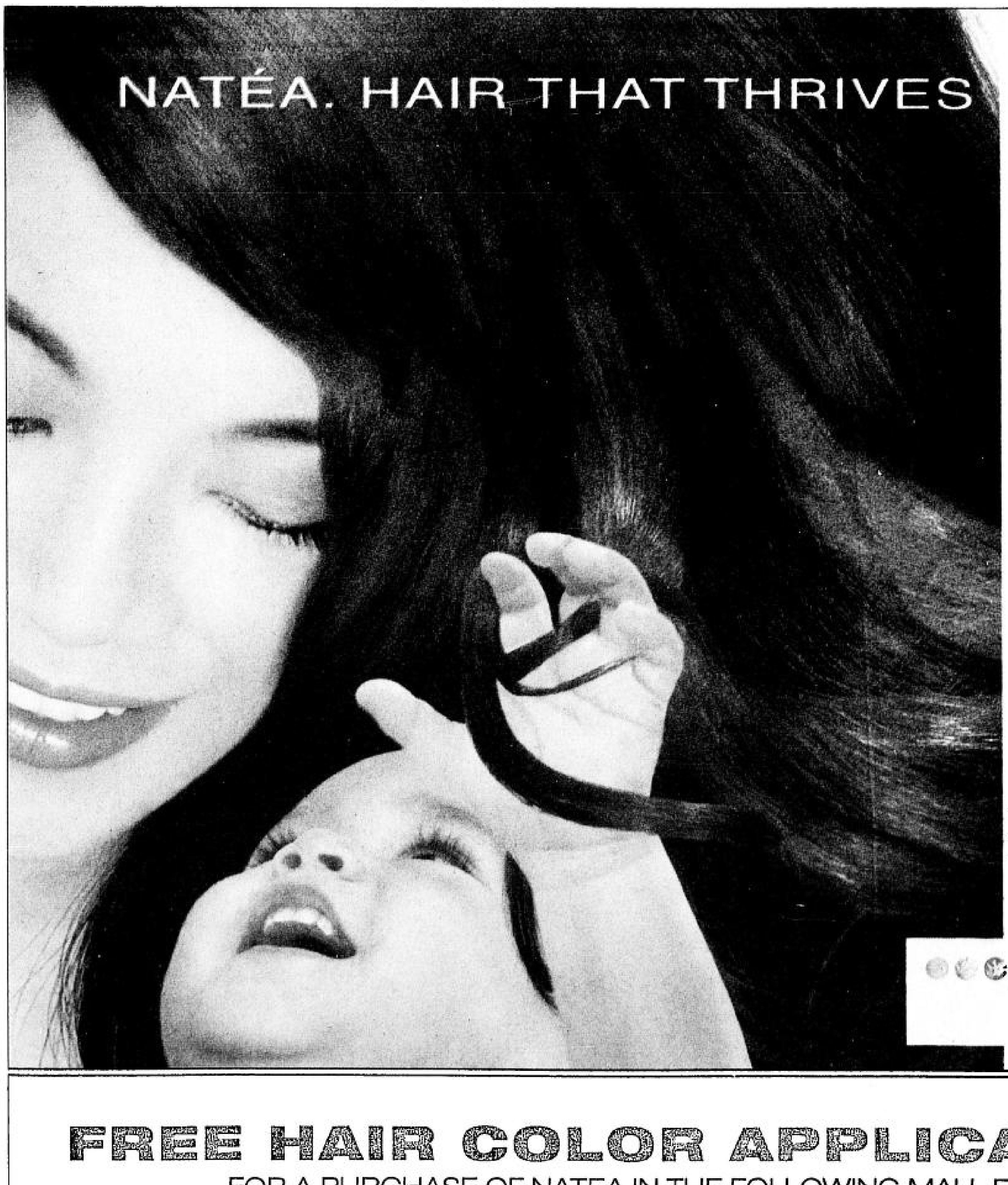
Wasted opportunity

He feels that the recently concluded Metro Manila Film Festival was a wasted opportunity. *"Ang laking pagkakataon* to educate the masses, to elevate their appreciation *sa* cinema." Diaz shares. Instead, he feels that the audience was given movies that were not worthy of being in a film festival. *"Totoo naman, marami namang mas magaling kesa yung mga pinili nila."*

leather forever

20% OFF
on all leather sofas
Promo Period: Jan. 16 - 31


Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0118 Series of 2002
SM MEGAMALL A SM CITY FAIRVIEW SM CITY BACOOR
Great Designs. Great Prices.
our Home


NATÉA. HAIR THAT THRIVES ON COLOR.

Natéa.

Trust your hair color to an expert.

The 1st permanent hair color masque that's more than just a cream. It's a nourishing fruit oil essence-based coloring masque. It penetrates to the very heart of the hair. Bringing you richer, longer lasting in-depth color, and protection for your hair.

LABORATOIRES GARNIER
NATEA
nourishing haircolor pack
with nutritive fruit oil concentrate
PERMANENT HAIRCOLOR

Suggested Retail Price
₱ 240.00

GARNIER
NO 1 IN EUROPE FOR NATURAL BEAUTY PRODUCTS.

FREE HAIR COLOR APPLICATION!
FOR A PURCHASE OF NATEA IN THE FOLLOWING MALL EVENTS:

Plus get a FREE coloring cape

SM MEGAMALL
Centermall, Bldg. B
Jan. 14 - 27

SM NORTH EDSA
Centermall
Jan. 16 - 29

SM SOUTHMALL
Centermall
Jan. 18 - 31

SM CENTERPOINT
Centermall
Jan. 16 - 29

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0042 Series of 2002

Sylvester Stallone's best and worst performances

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

QUESTIONS on your favorite celebrities? Write us: Phil. Daily Inquirer, Saturday Special section, Show Biz Q&A, Chino Roces ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo sts., Makati City.

This week's questions:

"I love watching Sylvester Stallone's movies. Is it true he started out as a porn star? Was he really cited as the 'Worst Actor of the Decade' by an award-giving group?" – ***Jeannie de Dios, New Manila, Quezon City.***

We wouldn't say that Sly started out making porno films, although it is true that he made a soft-porn movie, full frontal nudity included, in 1970's "Party at Kitty and Stud's."

Superstardom

When "Rocky" exploded at the box-office in 1996, catapulting him to international superstardom, the owner of the 1970 B-movie re-released it and changed its title, to capitalize on its star's newfound fame, to "Italian Stallion," the copy that circulated in the Philippines in the early '80s.

(The same thing happened to Sandra Bullock, though her performance was not as "revealing" as Stallone, when "Fire On the Amazon,"—retitled "Lost Paradise" when it was shown in the Philippines two years ago—which was finished but had remained unreleased for sometime, was finally distributed in 2000, after Bullock had already achieved superstar status. The film, which featured Sandra in steamy scenes with Craig Sheffer, was made in 1993. Sandra's ascent to the bigtime started with "Speed" in 1994 and "While You Were Sleeping" in 1995.)

Stallone was not just cited as "Worst Actor of the Decade," (for the '90s he was also named "Worst Actor of the Century" last year by the Golden Raspberry Awards (more popularly known as "Razzie"), which hands out awards for worst "achievement" in filmmaking. In fact, he has had eight "dis-honors" so far. Ouch!

But if it's any consolation, "Rocky," the movie that made him a star, also gave him an Oscar and Golden Globe Best Actor and Best Screenplay nominations in 1976. Likewise, when his formula action flicks started failing at the box-office, he chose to cut his stratospheric talent fee to do a role against his type, in 1997's "Copland," and won the respect of even his hardest critics. In fact, he won a "Best Actor" award for his performance in that movie at the Stockholm Film Festival in the same year.

Unfortunately, it hasn't been easy for Stallone to find scripts like "Copland" or even box-office winners like his "Rambo" franchise. After last year's "Driven," he will be seen in "Avenging Angelo" and "Dolan's Cadillac," which is based on a Stephen King story. Let's hope King will work wonders on Stallone's career the way "Shawshank Redemption" and "The Green Mile" boosted the fortunes of their lead stars.

Oscar bets

"Who are this year's top Oscar contenders? Are the Golden Globes and the critic groups' awards accurate predictors of the Academy Awards winners?" –***Ma. Florian Aballe, P. Guevarra, San Juan.***

The Golden Globes usually reflect quite a number of Oscar winners. But this year, particularly, award-giving groups have come up with a varied sets of winners. Only the Screen Actor's Guild (SAG), scheduled on Jan. 29, has not come out with its set of winners.

The Oscar nominees will be announced on Feb. 12, after which producers start extensive campaigns for their respective films. March 24 will be this year's big Oscar night.

Early winners

Here are some of this year's early winners of awards given by the Golden Globes, American Film Institute, New York Film Critics, Los Angeles Film Critics, National Society of Film Critics and On-Line Film Critics:

NICOLE Kidman won a Golden Globe for her performance in "Moulin Rouge."

Best Picture: "A Beautiful Mind" (Golden Globe, Drama); "Moulin Rouge" (Golden Globe, Musical/Comedy and NSFC); "Mulholland Drive" (NYFCC and OLFCS); "The Lord of the Rings" (AFI); "In the Bedroom" (LAFCA) and "Memento" (OLFCS).

Best Actor: Russell Crowe, "A Beautiful Mind" (Golden Globe, Drama); Gene Hackman, "The Royal Tenenbaums" (Golden Globe, Comedy); Denzel Washington, "Training Day" (AFI and LAFCA); Billy Bob Thornton, "The Man Who Wasn't There," "Bandits," "Monster's Ball" (NSFC and ONFCS) and Tom Wilkinson, "In the Bedroom" (NYFCC).

Best Actress: Sissy Spacek, "In the Bedroom" (Golden Globe, Drama; NYFCC; AFI; LAFCA); Nicole Kidman, "Moulin Rouge" (Golden Globe,Comedy/Musical); Naomi Watts, "Mulholland Drive" (OLFCS); Halle Berry, "Monster's Ball" (NSFC).

Best Supporting Actor: Jim Broadbent, "Iris," "Moulin Rouge" (Golden Globe; LAFCA; NSFC); Steve Buscemi, "Ghost World" (NYFCC and ONFCS); Gene Hackman, "The Royal Tenenbaums" (AFI).

Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Connelly, "A Beautiful Mind" (Golden Globe; OLFCS; AFI); Kate Winslet, "Iris" (LAFCA); Cate Blanchett, "Shipping News" (NSFC); Helen Mirren; "Gosford Park" (NYFCC).

Loyalists and friends forever

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

IT'S not just the Marcoses or the Estradas who have them. Would you believe, I have my own loyalists, too?

But, no, they're not the type who march to the streets and stage a rally at the slightest provocation, or smother the object of their affections with blind loyalty and idolatry. My loyalists are my friends—and I thank God for each and every one of them.

Presence

I confess, there was a time in my life that I didn't value them as much as I do now. Then, I just tolerated them and didn't fully appreciate their presence in my life, much less the little gifts they always brought whenever they came to see me.

At the time, I saw them as mere appendages of the so-called popularity that came with my kind of work. I needed them less for their friendship than for their being proof of my success.

It's totally different now. I see them as real people friends who give me genuine joy, blessings God has sent me to realize that the best thing in life come in small, simple packages.

Also now, I find myself looking forward to the get-togethers of my loyalists. There are truly joyous occasions that celebrate the friendship and deep bonding of kindred spirits. There a lot of food, but a lot more stories.

Reunion

During a recent reunion, there was one poignant moment when I stood in a corner and gazed fondly at all of them. A lot of them have been with me from way, way back and they were still here—through thick and thin, through sick and sin, as I like to say:

There's *Ka* Bale (Valerina Roxas). She's such a darling, her smiling eyes turn into little slits whenever she laughs.

And there's *Ka* Belen and *Ka* Petring (Faustino) as well as *Ka* Melang and *Ka* Seneng (Marquez). Like Ka Bale, they are members of SWA—*Samahan ng mga Walang Asawa*. They've never married, certified virgins all. They're now into their '80s but they're as strong as ever. Despite their arthritic hands and rheumatic feet, they never fail to be present at all of the loyalists' events.

There's Loddy Lastra, one of the originals. She dates back to the time when I was still with DZRM at the GSIS bldg. in Aroceros, Manila. She helped me pack my things when I transferred to DWOL (the Mabuhay Broadcasting System) in Avenida. Please don't ask me how long ago that was!

And there's Fe (Orsena). I got from her aunt the very first house I bought in Meycauayan. It was to her that I sold it when I later transferred to my big house on Esteban Abada. She'd bring me all kinds of Bulacan delicacies, but I call her the Tamales Queen because her tamales are to die for.

Another friend who brings me food fit for the gods is Estella (Bonifacio). Ask anybody from Marikina where you can find the best *goto* in the world and you'll be pointed toward the direction of her little but busting *carinderia*. Her fried *lumpia* is also the best in *da* West.

Ballroom dancing

Aside from cooking, Estella's other biggest passion is ballroom dancing. It's like she's transported to a magical world whenever she's sashayed to the dancefloor.

Annie Saludes is another real friend. She's therapy to me. She unloads her biggest and smallest problems on me and I realize how petty my own worries are. She has also taught me the value of fatalism. What will be will be. Happiness is in how one accepts life's offerings.

Marie Barbacui is a class all her own. A friend to some of the country's biggest stars—like Dolphy, Amalia Fuentes, Vilma Santos—Marie is a barometer of stardom. If you don't know Marie—or worse, if Marie doesn't know you—you're not yet a star!

Marie is an occasional character actress,which augments her income as an entrepreneur. Yes, she's a businesswoman. She sells *tuyo, tinapa, itlog na maalat, tapa, longaniza* and all kinds of breakfast delights.

There's Gisio See and his wife Jo. I first got to know them when they made it a habit to donate *chichiria* and other snack foods whenever "Eye to Eye" distributed relief goods in calamity-stricken areas. Up to now, they are such a generous couple. Even their children come to see me and have also built some solid connection with me somewhere deep inside.

Activities

Ben (Bernardo) is the logistics man, the one in charge of organizing and coordinating everything whenever there are activities. He's a no-nonsense guy, but he also has an incredible sense of humor that naughtily borders on the obscene. I'm in stitches whenever I receive his text messages.

Resty (Orioque) is something else altogether. A sacristan by day and a DI by night, he confesses to some gender confusion. He got married once, sired a son, but soon got separated from his wife. He didn't want to live a lie, he said.

His eternal, rhetorical question: How could he satisfy his wife in bed when what he actually longed for was the hard flesh of another man? Sorry, I didn't have the satisfactory answer to that!

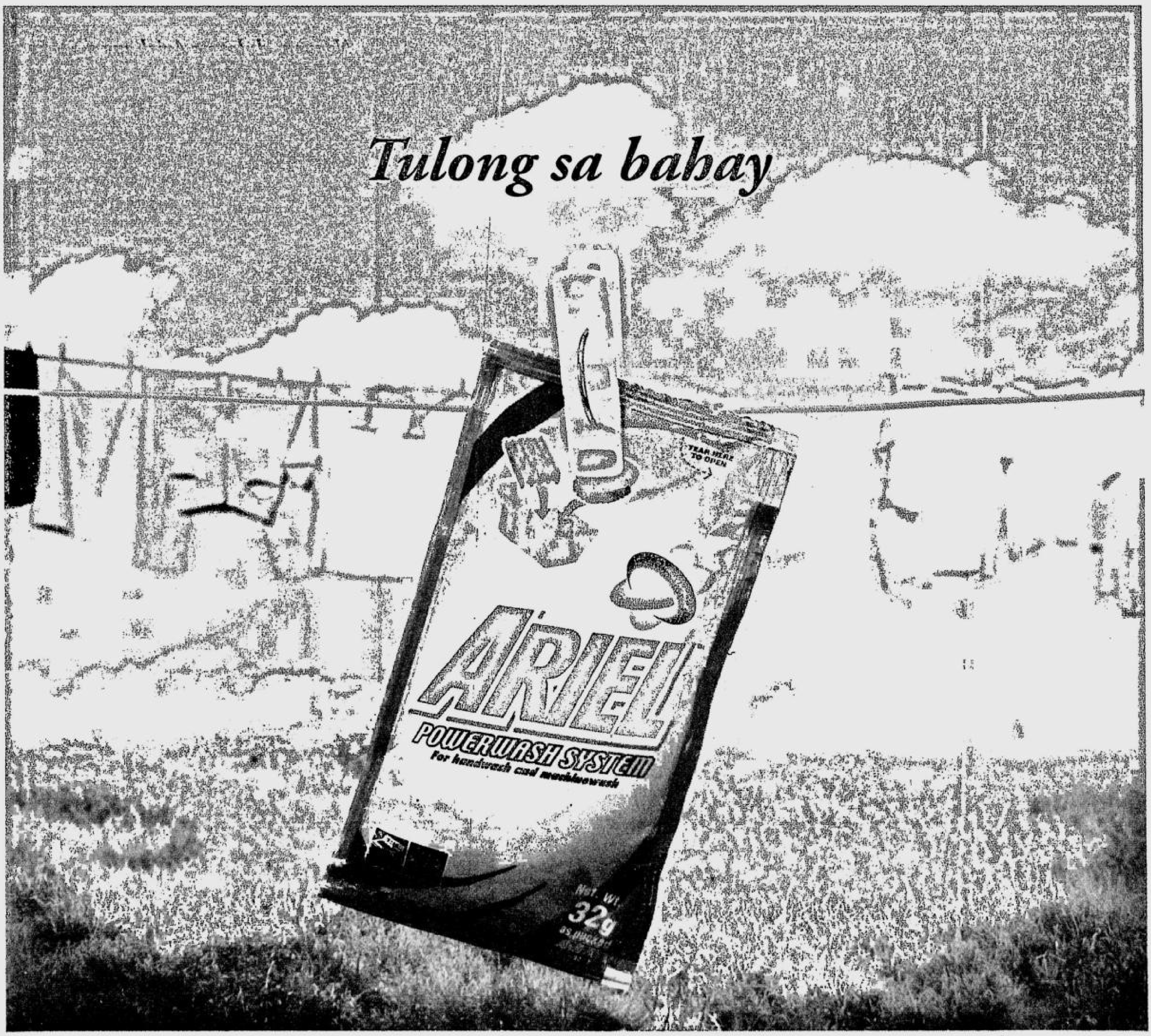
We've had our share of grief with the demise of Ka Apiang, Ka Silang, Lola Tinay—and Aling Pat, the Vilmanian. It wasn't without a smile that we went to her wake to see her coffin wreathed with all her photos taken with her beloved Vi, along with her much-cherished mementoes.

And there are many others—like Baby (Tatad), Ver (Tolentino), Lily (Leva), Cecille (Sicat), Rebecca (Curiano). They are some of the latest additions to our growing family. Each of them has a unique story to tell, and each is a treasured gift I still haven't finished unwrapping.

Professionals

The closest to my heart—and I know the others won't begrudge me for saying this—are Keng (Sanggalang), Erly (Dungo), and Not (Torres). They're all professionals—Keng is a teacher, Erly works at the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), and Not holds a managerial position at the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS)—but their careers has never gotten in the way of our friendship.

LOYALISTS/p.C2



Innovative concept

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

"PROJECT David" is a an innovative concept that Ana de Villa-Singson's bosses at Globe Telecom have conceived to add another dimension to the way people communicate on the telephone. "David" has since been launched by Globe Telecom as "Touch Mobile."

"Isn't it more exciting to hear a voice on your phone saying the words I Love You or I Miss You?" she asks. According to Ana, with a Touch Mobile phone, you can do all the things you're used to besides calling—like text message, voice mail, global roam and internet.

Voice message

But Touch Mobile now lets you record a voice message, add a sound icon if you like to make the message more dramatic, and then you send it. The recipient receives it right away, real time, and he can save it, to listen to it again and again.

Touch Mobile is a breakthrough concept, that becomes more interesting in the telling. Ana is a riveting storyteller, indeed, simplifying the processes of voice-guided technology and making them easy to understand and accept in her well-modulated, polished tones.

From AVP, Ana was speedily promoted to vice president, marketing, Mobile Communications Group. You wonder, how does she juggle being wife, mother to two small sons and career woman, yet remain her own person?

Antiques

To find out, enter the Zen Room at her Mediterranean-inspired abode in Ayala Alabang. "I need my space, too," she simply says. It is her very own world, with antiques and carvings from Bali and [illegible]g, low table that has been with the De Villa family for nearly a century.

She wakes up every day at five, lights some scented candles and incense, and meditates for 30 minutes, thanking the Almighty and contemplating what lies ahead. ***(To be concluded)***

DE VILLA-SINGSON. Breakthrough concept.

ANA (left) with new Touch Mobile talents, Aga and Charlene Muhlach.

LOSE WEIGHT:

Konjac, the formula that has helped countless European women

For all those (women and men) who wish to lose 8 lbs (or more) in one week

What is Konjac, the famous cure, which makes you feel attractive again even in the most hopeless case?

...This is what Dr. Hortz (Senior German Specialist in natural medicine) reveals:

"Those who say that they can let you lose weight with the help of some methods or medicine are liars.'

Please excuse me for being so outspoken. But I am shocked. I am shocked because during the past three years I have met more than two hundred persons with weight problem. And almost every time they said: "I don't know anymore what to do. I have tried everything, but nothing could make me lose my excessive pounds."

Do you know what most of these people answered when asked about they had tried? They responded: "Diet or medicines, or again various methods, pills..."

And do you know what these people have become today, the desperate ones who have been incapable of losing their overweight? All of them lost weight. Even the one case who had to reduce more than 50 lbs. was able to make it. And without any diet. Thanks to "Konjac Formula", the 100% natural cure.

Almost immediate results

"Konjac Formula" is a Japanese plant-based compound whose active substances aim at forcing your body to eliminate instead of accumulating body fat. This cure is so incredibly effective that you can lose up to 800 grams as early as after only 24 hours. Each week, you can lose at least-depending on the type of your case-4 kgs. (or 9 lbs.)

These active substances work in your body in the morning, in the afternoon and even at night while you sleep. You lose your weight automatically. The only thing you have to do is to use the formula before the two major daily meals.

You can go on eating as usual. There is no diet. No need to count the calories because every superfluous intake of calories will be automatically eliminated. Therefore, you will never feel hungry. Neither will you have the impression of depriving yourself of anything.

The water accumulation and the fat storage become progressively dissolved in every part of the body, including your hips, waist, thighs and other spots well-known for being uneasy to get thinner.

Even if you tried everything...

If you never really lost weight, this time you will. Even though you may think that you are a particular case, you still will. You will have difficulty in believing your eyes when you see that, day after day, week after week, the pointer tips the scales at lesser pounds.

Moreover, it does not matter if you have had overweight for 5 or 20 years. Neither is it important if you have to lose 10, 20, 50 lbs. or even more.

Now let's forget about secrets as well as miracle products and lose weight with guarantee...

Everybody who experienced this fast weight reducing cure has lost weight without putting on any pounds. Don't you think that if the cure worked with others (including the hopeless cases), it will also make you lose weight and remain permanently slender?

I repeat that, with this unique cure, you will be losing at least 8 lbs. each week, if you need to lose less than 22 lbs. And 10-12 lbs. weekly if you wish to lose more than 22 lbs., simply by ordering a test treatment as early as today.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO READ ANYTHING ELSE, READ AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING

The five principal advantages of the Konjac Formula:

1) 100% herbal-based
2) Rich in fiber with great water-absorbing capacity.
3) Satiating effect.
4) Limits uptake of lipids and carbohydrates and facilitates intestinal transit.
5) No therapeutic claims.

Let's imagine that your intake is 4,500 calories daily.

With Konjac Formula or "the fat burner", your body will consume merely 1,500 calories: you lose your weight automatically, without any change in your eating habits.

In order to provide you with the proof of the absolute efficiency of this weight reducing cure, you can test it without obligation. You will either lose your excessive pounds in a very rapid and easy way, or pay nothing.

What would be a better proof of the unconditional success of Dr. Hortz' cure than to tell you: "Receive the product, lose initially at least 8 lbs. without any special diet, and make your decision only after."

IMPORTANT: At present, our stock is still very limited. In order to be assured of the prompt service, please fill out and send us the test coupon this very day. Do it now while you are thinking about it.

"It's fantastic to be able to look at myself in the mirror and see how slender I am."

M.S.I.C., Room 303 Munro Bldg., 612 Pinatubo St., Mandaluyong City, 1550 M.M.

COUPON FOR GUARANTEED FREE TRIAL
Please cut out and forward to
M.S.I.C., Room 303 Munro Bldg., 612 Pinatubo St., Mandaluyong City, 1550 M.M.

YES. I would like to benefit from your unique offer to test, without obligation, the Konjac formula or "the fat burner". You expressly guarantee that

1) This 100% natural product is without any therapeutic effect
2) I do not have to follow any particular diet
3) No exercise, no massage
4) My absolutely free trial is guaranteed.

If I am not satisfied after taking a week treatment of my first bottle, I shall return to you whatever is left on my first bottle and the remaining unopened bottles within 30 days by registered mail. In this case, you will refund me the full value of the product upon reception of my returned package.
The above being understood, please send me within 15 days, discreetly packed, without any outside marking, the formula hereunder which I choose:

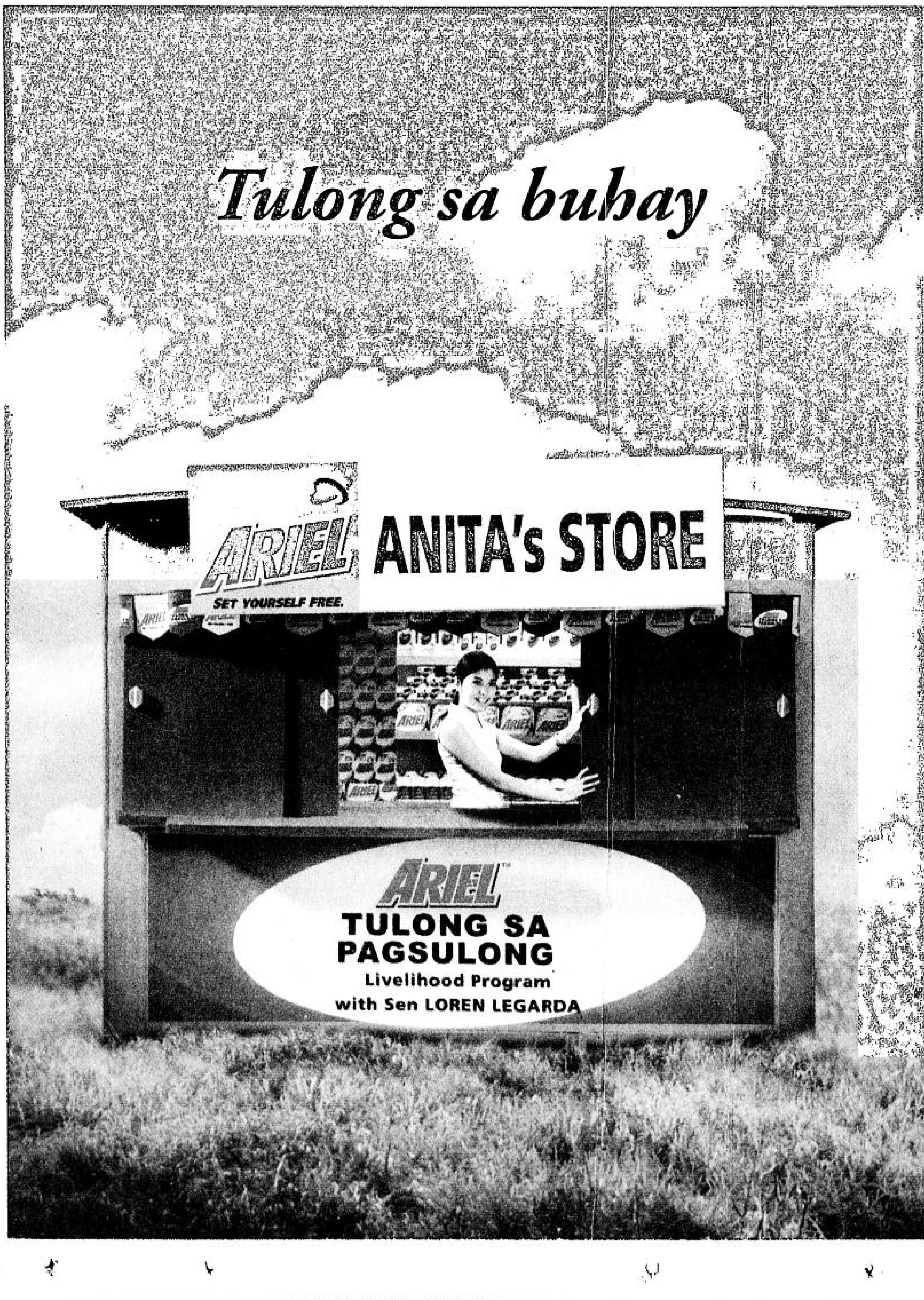
615 ☐ I must lose more than 20 pounds (......lbs to be exact). I order a double cure at P 2,295 + P 55 forwarding charges = P 2,350
614 ☐ I need to lose less than 20 pounds (......lbs to be exact). I order a single cure at P 1,295 + P 55 forwarding charges = P 1,350
616 ☐ I want to lose my 40 pounds or more (......lbs to be exact). I order an extended cure at P 2,895 + P 55 forwarding charges = P 2,950
617 ☐ I want to lose my excess pounds for good and order an intensive cure at P 3,395 + P 55 forwarding charges = P 3,450
300 ☐ Aside from my treatment, I would like to order a Konjak Gel Cream to help more burn excess fats and reshape my figure at a price of P 995.00

☐ Bankard ☐ ☐ VISA ☐ American Express
Card No.: ________ Exp. Date: ________
Cardholder: ________ Signature: ________
I am enclosing my payment for P ______
1. ☐ cheque made out to MAIL SHOPPING INTERNATIONAL CORP
2. ☐ postal money order made out to MAIL SHOPPING INTERNATIONAL CORP.
3. ☐ I prefer to pay C.O.D. through the Phil. Postal Corp. upon receipt of my kit even if it costs me an additional P 60.
4. ☐ Whatever form of payment I choose, I wish to be served with absolute priority. I therefore tick this box and add P 50 to my above payment.
Family Name: ________ First Name: ________
Address: ________
________ Zip Code: ________
Tel. No.: ________ Birthdate: ________ Signature: ________

P.S. If you mail this coupon within 3 days, you will receive in addition an unusual (and pleasing) gift, free of charge. The "surprise" regalo will be inside the package, and you may keep it, no matter what.

Fax us at 531-3507 or call 533-7932 or 532-8017

e-mail: msic@info.com.ph
cell no.: 0917-8937343



Ngayon, dulot ng Ariel ang ginhawa sa kalinisan at sa kabuhayan.

ARIEL
TULONG SA PAGSULONG
Livelihood Program

SARILING TINDAHAN PARA SA SUKI NG ARIEL
A LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM of ARIEL with Senator LOREN LEGARDA

Mechanics:

1. Ariel will be giving women the opportunity to have their own sari-sari stores. Ariel's support will include the physical structure of the store, signage and initial inventory of products worth ₱20,000.
2. With every purchase of Ariel, there is a corresponding contribution to a livelihood fund that gives sari-sari stores to women. A minimum of 80 stores will be given away. The more contribution to the fund, the more stores will be put up.
3. To participate in the promo, simply fill out the application form below. You must fill-out all information completely, including where you intend to put up the store and answer the essay question. You have the option to write the essay on a separate paper if more space is required. Attach 6 empty Ariel sachets or 1 empty Ariel bag, place in an envelope and drop in dropboxes in major supermarkets and public markets nationwide or mail to: 515 Katarungan St., Mandaluyong City.
4. Applications will be accepted from January 15, 2002 to May 15, 2002.
5. Every month, Ariel will be screening applicants based on the following criteria:
    - Female, ages 21-40
    - At least high school graduate
    - Should have space to put sari-sari store

   Names of applicants who pass the initial screening will be raffled off. 60 finalists will be picked and will be interviewed by an Ariel panel. Finalists will be notified of interview schedule and other requirements via telegram. Applicants who pass the interview will be raffled off to select 20 winners. Winners will be notified via telegram.
6. A minimum of twenty (20) winners will be awarded each month from February 2002 to May 2002 and will be notified via telegraph. Final awarding of stores is subject to ocular inspection to confirm feasibility of putting up the store.
7. Raffle draws will be held in the Procter & Gamble office, 18th flr. 6750 Ayala Ave., Makati, in the presence of a DTI representative on the following dates:
    February 22, 2002
    March 22, 2002
    April 26, 2002
    May 24, 2002
8. Prior to construction of the sari-sari store, winner should present notification telegram, identification and sign a Memorandum of Agreement for the ownership, maintenance and upkeep of the store for at least 12 months.
9. Employees of Procter & Gamble, Ace Saatchi and Saatchi, and Promo Dimensions, Inc. up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining this program.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0601, Series of 2002

Judy Ann-Jolina showdown at box office on Jan. 30

By Nestor U. Torre

IT'S official: Local movie "princesses" Judy Ann Santos and Jolina Magdangal are heading for a big showdown on Jan. 30, when their new starrers are slated to share the same opening playdate, and thus will compete head-on with each other.

JOLINA AND JUDY ANN. Absence makes the movie fan's heart grow fonder?

Non-issue

At first blush, the showdown appears to be a non-issue, since the two young actresses have different specializations, drama for Judy Ann and comedy for Jolina.

But that's not how the cookie crumbles on the local film scene, where competition, conflict, controversy and intrigue are the order of the day. Thus, the outcome of the two stars' impending "duel" at the box office is seen to prove which of them is the bigger draw, with the loser reduced to ignominiously eating the winner's dust.

Melodramatic? Exaggerated? Hysterical? Well, that's local screen competition for you.

So, which young star's movie will do better on Jan. 30? Some early indicators:

Absence

Judy Ann has been making one film after another, while Jolina hasn't starred in a movie for more than a year. Therefore, it can be reasonably concluded that Jolina's fans will be more eager to watch her movie than Judy Ann's (absence makes the fan's heart grow fonder, and all that).

Next, Judy Ann has had a number of weak movies of late, notably the ones co-starring her with presidential sons Mikey Arroyo and Jinggoy Estrada. So, she has to work harder to prove that she's still a reliably bankable star.

For her part, Jolina is also vulnerable in this department, because her film career has languished of late. So, she also has a lot riding on her new movie. If it clicks, expect her to get a lot of new offers. If it does poorly, her cinematic goose could be cooked.

Beyond teen gimmicks

In addition, her new movie is a transition film for Jolina, who is trying to go beyond teem gimmicks and colorful hairstyles, to establish a more young-adult look that is more appropriate to her 23 years of age.

So, Jolina's film is risky in the sense that nobody really knows if her fans will like her change of image. But the risk factor has been minimized by the fact that the movie is still a fantasy-comedy, which means that it's easy to take.

Another factor: Jolina's movie is being produced by Star Cinema, a major studio that can be expected to throw its powerful promo machinery behind the movie. On the other hand, Judy Ann's film is being produced by a smaller outfit, so its promotions may not be as attention-calling.

More versatile

Finally, Jolina is the more versatile performer since she can act, sing and dance, while Judy Ann's major talent is acting.

All told therefore, Jolina's movie could fare better at the tills—unless Judy Ann's legions of fans decide that this is a make-or-break test for their idol, and go out of their way to support her movie in droves.

Finally, there are unknown factors that could affect both movies' relative showing at the box office—like a really good story, specially attractive production values, and unusually strong word-of-mouth publicity.

These factors will come into play only after the two films have started their run, so the fans' final decision is on hold until Jan. 30, when Judy Ann's "May Pag-ibig Pa Kaya?" and Jolina's " "Kung Ikaw Ay Isang Panaginip" will square off at the box office.

When the dust settles, which young screen princess will still have her tiara perched jauntily on her pretty head?

Life and entertainment in the happy 1950s

By Behn Cervantes

BARELY a decade after Liberation, Manila was in a happy mood. It was then the mid-'50s. In keeping with the temper of the times, bouncy music was in vogue and played over and over in jukeboxes. The country was granted its independence in 1946 by the United States of America, after half a century of colonization. The likes of Claro M. Recto, Lorenzo Tañada, Luis Taruc and the Hukbalahap found that gesture highly questionable.

Great fervor

The boogie-woogie, rock 'n' roll and the twist were executed with great fervor by the young, and those who considered themselves young at heart.

Economically, the Philippines was No. 2 in Asia, second only to Japan. Life was good and the mood upbeat, especially since the Filipinos were eager to make up for lost time—those dark years when this country was occupied by the cruel Japanese forces.

All that was over. The peso was 2 to 1 dollar. Import control was over. The country made good money on sugar, hemp and copra. The population was a mere 12 million. Our natural resources were the envy of our neighbors and coveted by many Western countries. Yes, life was good.

For a mere P120, the minimum wage then, a professional could enjoy the simple joys of life. Why, a family could rent a four-bedroom house that came with servants' quarters, garage and garden in an exclusive residential area for a mere P300!

Boom

Life was good then. The United States was enjoying a postwar economic boom. We benefited from it, too. The radio was playing bouncy music while mellow-voiced announcers like Cris de Vera, Vero Perfecto and young guys like Bobby Ng and Dick Taylor read poetry and gave the latest news from here and abroad. Performers like Katy de la Cruz, Bobby Gonzales and Sylvia de la Torre reigned supreme as popular musical stars of film, stage and radio.

Radio serials included "Superman," "Cisco Kid" and Father Peyton's "Holy Rosary Hour," while local programs like "Edong Mapangarap" had Eddie San Jose dreaming about his beautiful American wife, Joan Page.

Soc Rodrigo and company produced "Kwentong Kutsero" and provided an amused audience with current political satire. Maestro Elizalde and his orchestra performed classics and Broadway hits on weekends, with classically-trained singers like Fara Lizardo, Mercy Oria and Don David.

A young and small-waisted *mestiza*, Pilita Corrales, was just starting to dish out Spanish songs, accompanying herself on her guitar. Trio Los Panchos ballads were still memorized by serenading Romeos.

Back in high gear

The local film industry was back in high gear with Sampaguita, LVN, Premiere and Lebran studios discovering more beautiful *mestizas* and handsome *mestizos* for eager movie fans. Themes were romantic and escapist, although stories on the war and the exploits of heroes as well as the pains of motherhood were also popular fare. Town *fiestas* still availed of *bodabil* talents from the prewar days to perform on their open stages for hours on end, competing with the noise of traffic, howling dogs, squealing babies and *balut* vendors.

Names like Pugo and Tugo, Lopito and Lopita rang many a bell. After all, they were stars even before the Pacific War and, with the likes of Leopoldo Salcedo, Rogelio de la Rosa and Fernando Poe (Senior), were part of an active Philippine theater scene during the Japanese Occupation, along with Narciso Pimentel, Soc Rodrigo, Fidel Sicam, Fred Cancio, Wilfrido Maria Guerrero and Lamberto Avellana.

Antics

The Manila Grand Opera House provided daily entertainment for the happy *madla* who came to laugh and cry at their performers' antics. For 85 centavos, they got a stage show and movie, too.

As expected, the stage shows were *halo-halo*. The format included *tawanan, bakbakyan, iyakan, kantahan, at sayawan* with shapely chorus girls who kicked their legs *ala* the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes. The more the merrier. *Sulit na sulit!*

The stage shows provided regular employment for the prewar products of the popular *bodabil*. Those who didn't perform in Teodoro's Grand Opera House found a slot at Clover Theater at Plaza Santa Cruz, where portly Lou Salvador, Sr. put on shows three times a day while fathering his many offsprings along the way! Among the many comedians at Clover was Rodolfo Quizon, later on known as Dolphy. Working somewhere backstage was someone named German Moreno.

Very soon, many of these hard-working performers of the '50s would become entertainment icons and superstars in the movies, recording and, later yet with the introduction of the boob tube, television! ***(To be concluded)***

'Promises, Promises' starts run on Feb. 1

By Gloria P. Sicam

THE MUSIC of the '60s is showcased in "Promises, Promises," which starts its run on Feb. 1 at Onstage Greenbelt.

A musical derived from a hit movie, "The Apartment" starring Jack Lemmon and Shirley Maclaine, it tells the tale of Chuck Baxter (played by Michael Williams), his love interest Fran Kubelik (Rachel Alejandro), the personnel manager J.D. Sheldrake (Lee Robin Salazar), his nosy neighbor Dr. Dreyfus (Bernardo Bernardo) and an array of interesting characters such as four horny executives and a chorus of dancing corporate employees and secretaries.

The book is by Neil Simon, lyrics by Hal David and music by Burt Bacharach, everyone's favorite composer—whether they know it or not.

Exciting

I asked the cast what's it like, working with Bacharach's music? Says Lee: "It's very exciting. We didn't really grow up with '60s music."

Adds Rachel, "*Hindi namin inabutan...*" To which Bernardo quips, "*Parang nagpaparinig sila sa akin.*"

But, seriously? "It's very different from the type of singing I was doing in 'Rent,' *iba na naman itong* type of musical *na ito*," says Rachel thoughtfully. "So again, I have to adjust. *Pero ang ganda din*. I like the melodies. My favorite song in the play is 'Whoever You are, I Love You.' I find the lyrics very simple, but they really strike a chord, the message of the song is so beautiful.

"*Tayo kasing mga babae, madali tayong mabola. Konting lambing, konting kiliti . . . huling huli kaagad ang loob natin*. That's why you don't really have to exert a lot of effort to make us happy. I think that's what the song is about."

Simplicity

Lee adds, "Nowadays, music tends to get more and more complicated—rap that's mixed with a little rock and roll, fusion and techno and house music—so you want to go back to the basics, the music that exploded during the '60s . . . beautiful, melodic music. That's why 'Promises, Promises' is really good for this time."

Rachel agrees: "Especially young people, they should come and see it because they're missing out on a lot of good stuff."

But, isn't a play set in the '60s too . . . well, '60s? Will today's youth connect with the music, the themes, the language? Bernardo claims, "The wry humor of this play is very 2000 . . . the only thing dated in this musical is how much apartments cost."

Says Lee: "A lot of people will be surprised to know that many songs from the '60s are tunes that some of the younger generation can relate to. Like for example . . ." Rachel interjects, singing . . . "What do you get when you fall in love?", which was featured in the movie, "My Best Friend's Wedding."

Bernardo jokes, "Rachel, you notice how times have changed? Before when you fell in love you only got pimples? Now, you get STDs!"

Heartbreak

Bernardo kids Rachel: "Rachel, *ano'ng* promise *mo*? Heartbreak, heartburn, heart attack, *ano pa*? Heart-to-heart happiness?" But he turns serious and says, "Make sure you watch 'Promises, Promises.' If there's such a thing as a classic '60s musical, this is it!"

AYALA CINEMAS
INQUIRER 2bu!
107.5 FM NU 107 ROCKS
The Exclusive
Be a part of the Fellowship!
THE LORD OF THE RINGS
Hang-over Party

featuring acoustic performances by
SLAPSHOCK, IMAGO, ITCHYWORMS and more
Plus
a chance to win Lord of the Rings souvenirs!!!

January 26, Saturday, 7 pm, Glorietta 4 Cinema Lobby, Ayala Center, Makati City

To join the Fellowship:
- listen to NU107
- check out the pages of Inquirer-2bu! on Wednesday, January 23
- call Ayala Cinema Links 7297777
- Log on to http://you.inq7.net

Brought to you by YOU infocom

Ogie Alcasid as singer and composer

By Leia Torre

IN his latest album, "A Better Man," Ogie Alcasid has chosen songs that every hopeless romantic, heartbroken individual, or lonely person out there can relate to. All of the songs except "I Will Be Here" and "One" are love songs. Tracks one to eight are in Filipino, and the remaining cuts are in English.

ALCASID. Has come up with an album of love songs.

Regret

The first number, "Ikaw Sana," is a song of regret. It is a slow, lonely song, which nevertheless crescendoes towards the end. The heartache and difficulty involved in choosing between the one you've pledged your love and loyalty to and the one who inexplicably makes your heart beat faster is evident throughout the song.

Wrong timing, which has become a convenient scapegoat for doomed love, is called upon yet again to perform its duty in this song.

"Ikaw Pa Rin Pala" is a slow, mournful song of chastisement whose beat picks up as the song plays itself out. The sad mood of the song gradually transforms into hope, and finally into confirmation and fulfillment.

It speaks of a love that has undergone a lot of trials and has emerged triumphant. Promises are then made with the purpose of avoiding the heartache that separation, however temporary, can bring.

"Sa Puso Ko" sings of promises, understanding, and willingness to sacrifice and to wait. The singer's soulful voice is showcased by the melody, although the lyrics have more or less been heard before in other songs.

Mellow duet

"Hanggang Ngayon" is Ogie's mellow duet with Regine Velasquez about a love that withstands all efforts to sublimate it. Added depth is attained during the chorus when the two singers' voices blend together. The rather simple arrangement does not overpower the singing.

"Sana" dramatizes the journey of life and how the path we choose either converges or diverges from that taken by the one we love.

The sixth number in the album is "Ikaw Lamang," not a remake but a new composition that pledges love and commitment.

"Sana Bukas Mahal Mo Na Ako" is a quiet song with few crescendoes. Most "*torpes* in love" out there would find it easy to relate to this song.

Tomorrow

It puts a lot of stock in tomorrow and what it might bring. Some daring lovers might heartily disagree with the song's idea of waiting passively and wishing futilely while opportunity passes by.

"Pangako Ko" pledges undying love. Its melody and accompaniment convey the message effectively, but the lyrics have all been heard before. Ogie's expressive voice saves the day by lending the lyrics the life they would otherwise have lacked.

"I Will Be Here" is about friendship, and defines what friends should do for one another.

Inspiration

"A Better Man" vivifies the inspiration a person can bring to another person's life.

"I'll Be Yours Forever" offers an upbeat change from most of the earlier numbers, which tend to be slow. The song wonders what went wrong in a romance, and begs for another chance.

Essential

The 12th track is "One." Ogie sings with Jaya, Lani Misalucha, and Regine Velasquez. The song stresses that acting as one is essential for any endeavor to succeed.

In this song, the singers' voices contrast with and complement each other beautifully. Their stylistic variations give the song greater texture and character.

All of the songs in this album were composed by Alcasid himself, showing that he has other talents besides singing.

Lea Salonga stars in concert of Broadway songs

By Edmund L. Sicam

AFTER tackling a non-musical role in Atlantis Productions' "Proof," Lea Salonga is back in familiar territory in a concert of Broadway hits on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at the PICC Plenary Hall. Lea says that this is something she has always wanted to do but never got around to doing.

She shares that the idea for the concert came about through phone conversations, letters via e-mail and snail mail. People would give her suggestions on what to do until the whole concept of "Lea Salonga: The Broadway Concert" came about.

Repertoire

Her repertoire is a mixture of tunes that most people are acquainted with and tunes that only the avid Broadway fans will recognize. She will sing songs that are identified with her such as "Maybe" from "Annie," one of her first musicals, "Fallin'" from "They're Playing Our Song," and tunes from "Flower Drum Song," "My Fair Lady," "Miss Saigon" and "Les Miserables."

But Lea believes that the audience will enjoy the concert regardless of whether they know the songs she sings or not. "People go to a concert to listen to good music. You expect to listen to quality material, hopefully good performances of that material, and you go to listen to an orchestra play."

Joining Lea in her concert are Michael de Mesa, Calvin Millado and Carlo Orosa. They will be accompanied by the San Miguel Foundation Pops Orchestra. The show is directed by Bobby Garcia, with Gerard Salonga as musical director.

SALONGA. Wants to sing the title role in "Evita."

So how is it when siblings work together on a project like this? "It's always good," says Lea. "The nice thing about working with my brother is this: a lot of times when I work with another musical director, I have to use peripheral vision to see if he's really listening to the orchestra, but with Gerard, it's like we can almost second-guess what we're going to do."

Early-morning rehearsals

Gerard says the feeling is mutual. "It's all of that, plus the added convenience of rehearsing at 1 in the morning, anytime you want!" He dismisses the myth that his sister is so perfect that rehearsals are no longer necessary. Gerard explains that the perfection people talk about is what they see onstage, the finished product. "What people should realize is that to come up with that product takes hours of practice and rehearsal."

For someone who became the toast of Broadway in "Miss Saigon," it is surprising to learn that Lea had never seen a Broadway show until she watched "Miss Saigon" *after* she left the show. When she first arrived in New York for "Miss Saigon" in 1991, she went straight to rehearsals and had shows almost every night. "I had no time to see anything!"

Favorites

She shares that she loves the musical "The Lion King" ("The production is just incredible!") and "The Who's Tommy." "Les Miserables" is one of her all-time favorites. "The music is just so emotional."

The role of "Evita" is a dream part for Lea. She says that she has heard that two of the most challenging female roles in musicals are Evita and Kim in "Miss Saigon." "I've done one of them, and if I do the other, that will make me happy!"

Aside from Evita, Lea says she would like to portray Belle in "Beauty and the Beast." She is also open to the idea of doing off-Broadway shows such as "Vagina Monologues" and "Rocky Horror Show."

"That would be fun!" she says with a smile. "If I felt that there was something about the material that called out to me, if it's something that I feel is right for me to do, then I will do it."

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKSHELF

Superstars of performance art

By Noelani Torre

(Conclusion)

THE BOOK "Rants, Raves and Monologues" kicks off with one of the superstars, "multidisciplinary artist/rock performer" Laurie Anderson.

Funny and so dry you can hear it crack, her work crunches and snaps in one's literary mouth like ketchup-flavored fries.

Sense of delirium

Following her is Penny Arcade, whose work has less structure and at times approaches a sense of delirium. It has a definite sting though, and even if the very New York Aunt Lucy may make us wince ("You should look in the windows of the stores! You should see the way people dress! The girls? They got the dress long and the hair up in the air. Or else the skirt short and the hair in the eyes! And the boys? The boys wear tights! That's it, just tights. With their thing an' everything showing"), she does sound familiar.

Ron Athey piqued our interest because of his picture. He's, well, naked, and tied up to a column *a la* St. Stephen.

Our particular favorites include Eric Bogosian, Spalding Gray, and Tim Miller. Nicky Paraiso also caught our eye (at first it was because he's Filipino-American but his work is very good as well).

The image of Bogosian in darkness with his face illuminated by a gooseneck lamp ("Come here, my little children. Come here, small tender ones. Into my arms. Into my teeth of streets. Run into the midnight traffic. Fall against the hot drops of water from your mother's tears. Laughing into my teeth"), is almost supernatural. We are told that he is popularly known as a stand-up comic but this piece, "The Poem," is disturbing.

Tight and powerful

The excerpt from Spalding Gray's "Gray's Anatomy" (most of the texts in this book are excerpts) is tight and powerful. We particularly enjoyed his fascinatingly detailed and, for us at least, hilarious description of his visit to a psychic surgeon in the Philippines: ("I stripped to my red underwear, I got in the middle, and the Japanese began to go up to the table. Out come the bloody grapes again! Out come the meatballs!

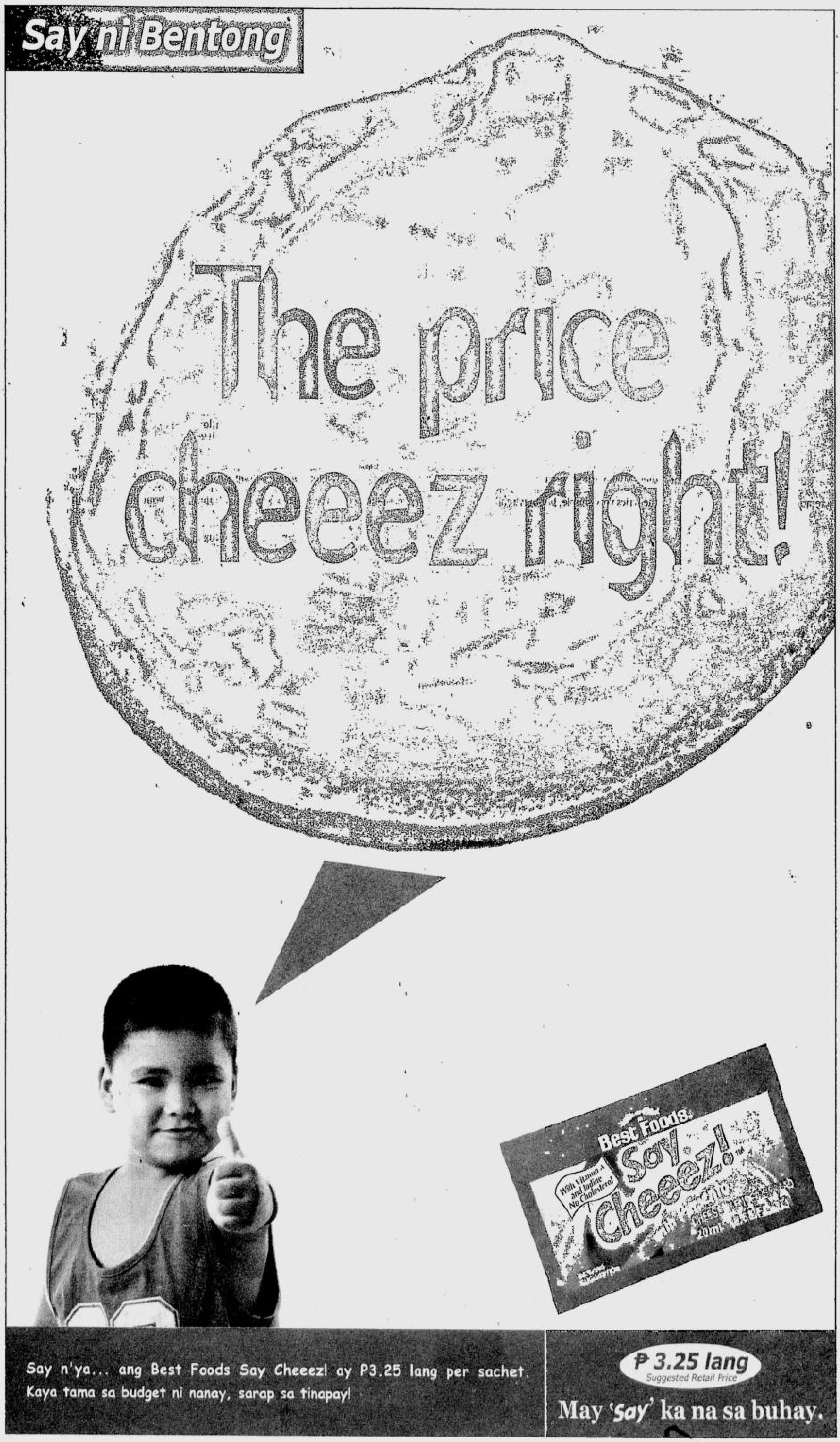
"My time comes, and I jump on. It's like jumping right into a Francis Bacon painting. Right into a Bosch painting. Right into a Catholic morgue. All this stuff is on the floor, reeking of blood. I'm lying there quaking on the table, crying out, 'It's my eye! Remember, my left eye! Please! Don't pull any meatballs out of me!")

Unsettling

Tim Miller's "Maw of Death" also unsettled us a little, only a little. This being a predominantly Catholic society where queens are still thought of as those women who sit on thrones and wear crowns. Miller is so unabashedly gay that we felt kind of embarrassed for feeling embarrassed.

His piece has intertwisting lines of light and dark. He sounds so upbeat that it takes us a few seconds to catch on to the fact that he's talking about death and AIDS: ("The next year, I just caught a glimpse of Martin. On a new bike. Racing down Broadway with an even more ambitious haircut. The next year, Martin was dead. Of you-know-what.")

This is a very provocative collection (even though it was out together back in the late 20th century) but, since we aren't likely to watch these artists in the flesh, it leaves us hanging. Russell says it better in his Foreword: "Do the texts work as great literature? No, they are meant to be performed. There are numerous elements of these live events that can only be hinted at on the page."



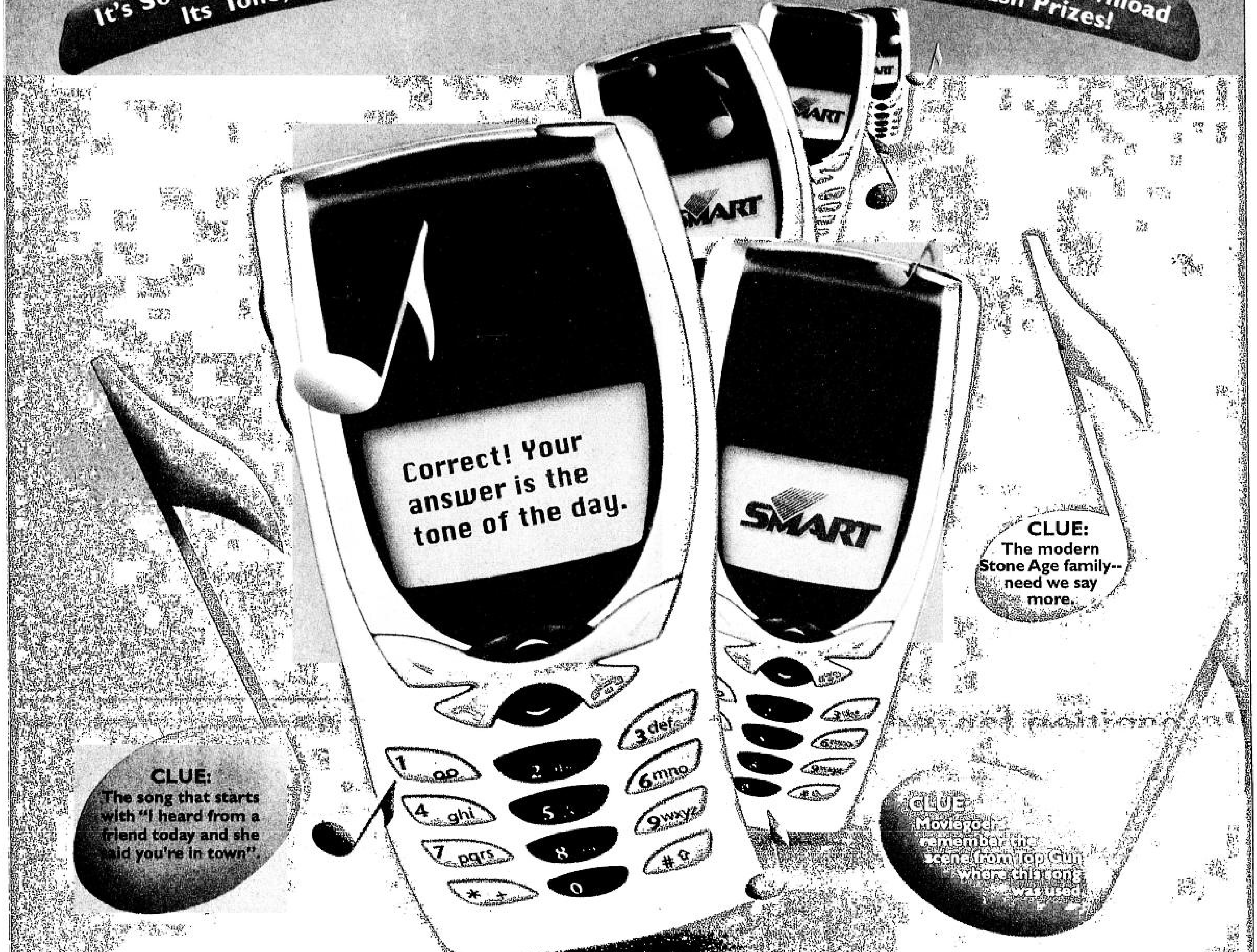
Say n'ya... ang Best Foods Say Cheeez! ay P3.25 lang per sachet. Kaya tama sa budget ni nanay, sarap sa tinapay!

May '*Say*' ka na sa buhay.

SMART

Name That Tone

It's So Easy! This Game Is All Via Text. You'll Get A Clue About A Song, Then Download Its Tone, So You Can Guess The Title And Sing Your Way To Big Cash Prizes!


Correct! Your answer is the tone of the day.
SMART
CLUE: The modern Stone Age family-- need we say more.
CLUE: The song that starts with "I heard from a friend today and she said you're in town".
CLUE: Moviegoers remember the scene from Top Gun where this song was used.

A Blast Of Over

₱500,000.00

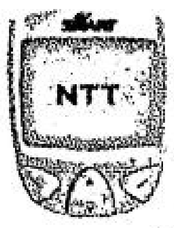
In Cash Prizes To Be Raffled Away!

SMART
Simply Amazing!

SMART NAME THAT TONE SETS THE BEAT FOR SOUNDS AND PRIZES

Register Now!

Key in NTT and send to 234. Then follow the succeeding instructions;



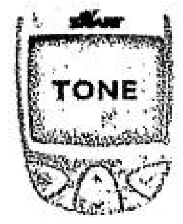
- Key in NAME <your full name> and send to 234.
- Key in BIRTH <mmddyyyy> and send to 234.
- Key in ADD <address> and send to 234.

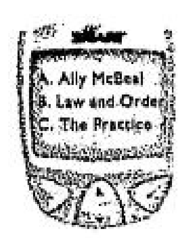
Your registration automatically earns you a raffle entry for all weekly draws.

The theme from the Emmy Award winning TV series on the lighter side of law!

Play The Game!

You will then receive a clue about the mystery tone of the day.




A. Ally McBeal
B. Law and Order
C. The Practice

Guess The Title By Downloading The Tone!

Key in TONE and send to 234. Together with the downloaded tone, you will also receive the multiple choice set of ringtone titles.

Text in your Answer!

Simply key in ANSWER <A, B or C> and send to 234. You will receive a message telling you whether you got the correct answer or not. There will only be one chance to guess the mystery tone of the day. Each correct answer earns you 5 raffle entries for the Weekly, Monthly and Grand draws.

INVITE 09182442322

Invite Your Friends And Earn More Raffle Entries!

Key in INVITE <your friend's SMART celfone number> and send to 234. Each invite earns you 1 raffle entry, to be added to your total raffle entries.

To redisplay the clue, key in SHOW and send to 234.

To check your raffle entries, key in POINTS and send to 234.

To temporarily stop receiving the daily questions, key in UPDATE OFF and send to 234.
To resume receiving the daily questions, key in UPDATE ON and send to 234.
The mystery tone of the day will be updated at 12 midnight daily.

Only subscribers with ringtone-download-capable handsets will be able to hear the mystery tone of the day. However, downloading is necessary to get the multiple choice set of ringtone titles. A subscriber without the necessary handset can still answer based on the clue and multiple choice set of ringtone titles.

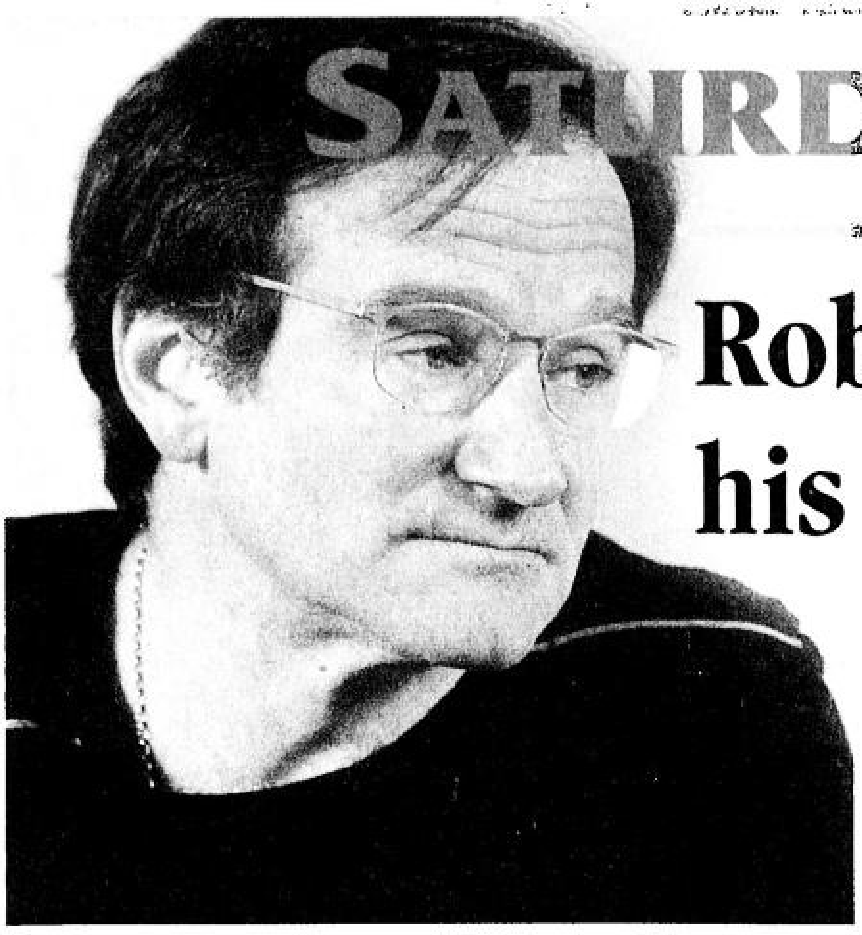
WIN THESE PRIZES!

DRAW DATE	CASH PRIZE
GRAND DRAW: (1 winner) Feb. 11, 2002	₱200,000.00
MONTHLY DRAWS: (1 winner per draw) Jan. 14 and Feb. 11, 2002	₱50,000.00
WEEKLY DRAWS: (3 winners per draw) Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, and 11, 2002	₱10,000.00

**There will be a standard charge of ₱12.00 per ringtone download and ₱2.50 per message for all other transactions.*
**Cut-off time for the entries will be at 11:59 PM of the day before the draw date.*
**Ringtone-download-capable handsets are: Nokia 3210, 3310, 3330, 6150, 6210, 6250, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8310, and 9210.*

Powered by:
Information Gateway

SATURDAY *Special*



Robin Williams bares his lonesome side

WILLIAMS. His character slips into a madness that has dangerous consequences for all of the people around him.

By Bob Tourtellotte

PARK CITY, Utah—Imagine cross-country skiing and passing Robin Williams—not the wacky comedian audience love, but a lonely guy gliding along quietly atop the white snow. It would be sort of odd, but it could happen.

Eerie drama

Williams new film, "One Hour Photo," an eerie drama about one man's obsession with another man's family, premiered in Utah at the Sundance Film Festival last week. And, despite a comic routine after the debut that had audiences howling, the film's director said that's not what makes Williams tick in the film.

"The reason he's so good is that you might be seeing glimpses of the real Robin Williams in Sy Parrish (his character)," said writer/ director Mark Romanek. "I'm not saying Robin is a psychotic stalker, but you are seeing some of the more thoughtful, isolated side of him."

Alien

Since hitting it big as an alien in 1970s TV comedy "Mork and Mindy," Williams, 50, has steadily built a career as a dramatic actor in films like "Good Will Hunting." Audiences know of his acting range, but perhaps for the first time, in "One Hour Photo," they see his more personal, lonely side.

Voices

"One guy said,' Is this your childhood, and I said, 'no, I used to hear voices as a child, but I didn't hear them,'" alluding to Sy's mental illness. That, of course, is the comic Williams.

He turns serious when talking about middle-aged Sy Parrish, who runs the photo lab inside a large retail store like a Wal Mart or Kmart. Sy has no family of his own, so he leads a fantasy life as "Uncle Sy," a member of the Yorkin family whom he thinks he knows after years of developing their photos.

"I was an only child. I did have kind of like a lonely existence. The idea of being a character who is kind of isolated, I can relate to that," he told Reuters.

Loner

"I'm still, in a way, drawn to loner activities like cross-country skiing or long-distance bike racing. Those aren't group activities. I am a loner on that level... Maybe that's part of Sy, that kind of withdrawn part," he added.

But Sy's withdrawal from society and obsession with the Yorkins leads to his eventual stalking of the family. And when things go seriously wrong in the Yorkins' life, "Uncle Sy" believes he has to take action to rectify the problem.

The movie is not so much driven by a mysterious plot with twists and turns, although there are plenty of those.

Williams calls it "basically a psychological portrait," and Romanek prefers not to discuss what it's about because of all the "little surprises that I don't want to give away."

Offbeat style

In keeping with the offbeat style of moviemaking that defines independent film—Sundance is the United States' top festival for independent filmmakers held each year in this mountain town east of Salt Lake City—"One Hour Photo" is a visual film, set mostly within Sy's cleaned and polished retail store.

Romanek, who made a career as a music video director for the likes of Madonna and Nine In Nails, said he purposely set camera shots to appear as if they were framed like photos in order to instill the idea that Sy's life is built on images he develops and not on reality.

Because of its heightened visual sense, Williams describes the film as a sort of "double-bill" of style and story.

"Half of it is the visuals, he said. "It's all about what Sy sees, his fixations, his fantasies."

The other half is his portrayal of Sy, whose lonely life slips into a madness that has dangerous consequences for all the people around him.

Madness

While Williams does admit to being lonely at times, he's quick to point out that there is not "some deep-seated psychological part of me" bordering on madness.

Zaniness? That's a different story.

"Yeah, there is this kind of extravagant performer, which is great. But there is the other part, that's very quiet. People wonder, 'Is something wrong?' Not at all. It is more kind of withdrawn."

Still, after seeing him as the quiet but sinister Sy in "One Hour Photo," bike riders or cross-country skiers who see him on the trails perhaps should just pass on by.—*Reuters*

Recognition for independent films

By Dean Goodman

LOS ANGELES—A drama about an honorable pedophile and a rock musical about a deformed transsexual are among the leading contenders for the independent movie world's version of the Oscars, organizers said on Tuesday.

Six categories

"L.I.E," starring British stage actor Brian Cox as a former US Marine with a weakness for young boys, will compete in six categories at the 17th annual independent Spirit Awards on March 23.

Two films nabbed five nominations each: the transsexual romp "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" and the acclaimed amnesia thriller "Memento."

The three films will compete for best feature, along with the fact-based rape drama. "Things Behind the Sun" and the innovative live-action cartoon "Waking Life."

SISSY Spacek, star of "In the Bedroom," is nominated as best actress.

The Spirit Awards honor films based on such criteria as original, provocative subject matter, budget and the degree of independent financing. The event is organized by the West Coast branch of the Independent Feature Project (IFP/ West), a non-profit support group for filmmakers working outside the Hollywood studio system.

Ceremony

The ceremony takes place each year the day before the Academy Awards during a leisurely luncheon underneath a marquee on Santa Monica Beach. There is usually some crossover between Spirit and Oscar nominees, but none of last year's Spirit winners won Oscars the next day.

It's hard to imagine the aged members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences handing out Oscar gold to "L.I.E.," a poignant drama that marked the feature-directing debut of photographer and commercials director Michael Cuesta.

Cox, perhaps best known for his role as the first Hannibal Lecter in the 1986 thriller "Manhunter," plays Big John, a pedophile who overcomes his predatory instincts to befriend a troubled 15-year-old boy (Paul Franklin Dano). The film cost less than $500,000 to make.

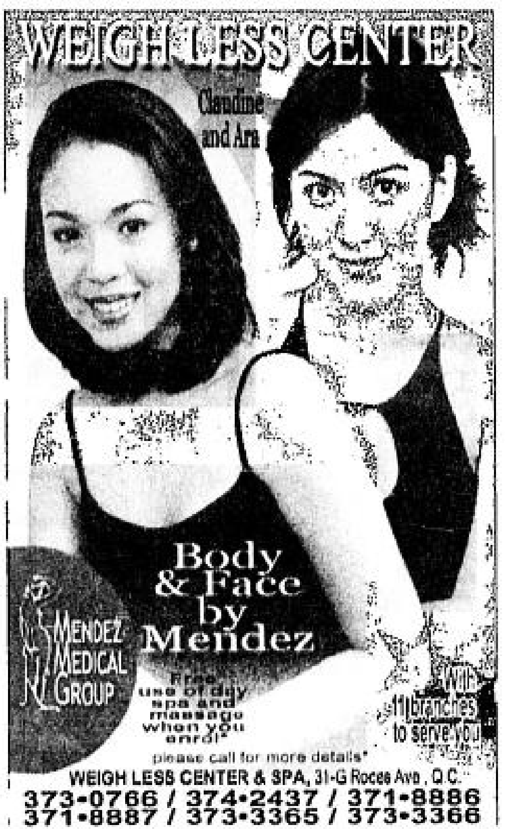
"Hedwig and the Angry Inch,"

RECOGNITION/ p.D2

Lowepro®
Camera Bags & Accessories
Magnum AW MF
Nature Trekker AW
STRONGHAND, INC.
74 A. Roces Avenue, Quezon City
Phone: 411-9380 E-mail: sales@stronghand.net

See it with your own eyes. Hear it with your ears.
NOW AVAILABLE FOR AS LOW AS P5,185
New Acousticon By
WEINSTEIN PIANOS
CUBAO: 2F Ali Mall (near Cineplex) Araneta Ctr, Tels. 912 4884 /912-4886
LAS PIÑAS: Uniwide Metro Mall Tel. 09185054407
CEBU: 2F SM City, North Reclamation Area Tel. 032-4129290
DAVAO: 3rd Floor Gaisano Mall Tel. (082) 227-7761
CAGAYAN DE ORO: A&M Bldg., Tomas Taco 1st St., Nazareth Tel. (088) 857-5361
1916-2002 86
NOVALICHES: Tels. 983-0806 / 936-7407 CAINTA: 681-7311 BINONDO: Tel. 254-8656 SAN PEDRO: Tel. 808-0048 BATANGAS: Fiesta Mall, Lipa City CABANATUAN: Tel: (044) 791-0136 DAGUPAN: (075) 515-5381 BOHOL: Tel. (038) 411-4576 CONPINCO TRADING VISMIN: Tel. (082) 226-2771

EXTENDED!!!
Free Admiral Laundry Teledryer 70
Imported! Worth ₱3,000
₱27,825 Washer
₱27,300 Gas Dryer
SALE
AAV 1200 AKW
LNC 8760 A71 / A77
₱26,500 ₱26,000
Yes! ADMIRAL is going wild this holiday season. Showering you with an Imported Admiral Laundry Teledryer 70 for every purchase of an Admiral 10.1 kg.([illegible])WASHER or 10.1kg.([illegible])DRYER. Not only is the feature of Admiral 10.1 kg. washer bigger in tub-size capacity than brand "X", in fact it is 9% more than brand "X"s 10.5 kg. washer. Promo Period: EXTENDED up to February 14, 2002
Hurry get this offer now!!!
PROUDLY MADE IN USA
Available at:
SALES DIRECT LTD - TEL.#910 - 5986
SM APPLIANCE CENTER - TEL.#734 - 9567
SM MEGAMALL B 632 - 7124, SM SOUTHMALL 800 - 3513
SM NORTH EDSA 928 - 9665, SM FAIRVIEW 935 -0720
SM BACOOR (046) 417-0117
ANSON EMPORIUM - TEL.#843-4057/845-3009
ZOOM MARKETING-TEL.#361-3324
ROYAL STAR - TEL.#(049)545-1327/545-1586/545-5264
FAIR N' SQUARE ALL BRANCHES - TEL.#361-7762/241
CONPINCO MARKETING - TEL.#925-5213/925-5215,17
PIONER CENTER SUPERMARKET - TEL.#638-5911
NEW TARLAC NORTHERN MARKETING - (045)982-0078
MAGIC APPLIANCE CENTER
DAGUPAN CITY - TEL#(075)515-5381/515-2793
URDANETA CITY - TEL.#(075)568-8896/568-2278
ALAMINOS - TEL #(075)522-7370
AUTOMATIC CENTER
GREENBELT-TEL.#816-0729/892-7254
NORTH EDSA-TEL.#927-6778/927-6747
TUTUBAN-TEL.#253-2028/251-0381
GREENHILLS-TEL.#726-3839/725-2012
LAS PINAS-TEL.#800-4724/800-4529
GLORIETTA 4-TEL.#729-6450/729-6452
ALABANG TOWN-TEL.#809-5981/809-6076
For value nothing outranks an ADMIRAL
A DIVISION OF MAYTAG
(Parts Readily Available)
[illegible] Unisphere Holdings Inc. Tel. Nos. 910-5113;671-5955
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1945 series of 2001
*Approved by DTI-NCR



WEIGH LESS CENTER
Claudine and Ara
Body & Face by Mendez
MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP
Free use of day spa and massage when you enrol*
With 11 branches to serve you
please call for more details*
WEIGH LESS CENTER & SPA, 31-G Roces Ave., Q.C.
373-0766 / 374-2437 / 371-8886
371-8887 / 373-3365 / 373-3366
ALL CLIENTS ARE SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT*

FERSAL INN
New CONDOTEL
Avlb 2 & 3 BR
Fr. US$95 net ☎912-8000
Fully Furnished
*
Clean
*
Nice Rooms
P400 to 1,300/DAY
Disc. on Wkly/Mo.
* 11th Day FREE
107 Neptune St. Makati City 1201 Tel. (632) 897-9123 Fax (632 897-9107
245 P. Tuazon St. Cubao, 1109 Q.C. Tel. (632) 912-8000 Fax (632) 9138076
130 Kalayaan Ave. Diliman, Q.C. Tel. (632) 924-2689 Fax (632) 925-3206
49 Annapolis St. Cubao, Q.C. Tel (632) 912-5852 Fax (632) 911-3410
E-mail: fersalinn@i-manila.com.ph

SMART zed™
The biggest text-based quiz game is now even bigger! Join SMART zed
Text to Milli,000,000ns Quiz Game
E! Hollywood Edition
When it comes to trivia, Some Like It Hollywood.
Use your knowledge of showbiz trivia for a chance at the ₱1,000,000 grand prize plus other big cash prizes every week. Join now!
The more correct answers, the more chances of winning. So if you want to get rich like a movie star, get into SMART zed Text to Millions E! Hollywood Edition today!
Weekly Draws (January 14, 21 & 28; February 11, 18 & 25; March 11, 18 & 25): ₱50,000 • 1st Monthly Draw (February 4): ₱100,000 • 2nd Monthly Draw (March 4): ₱200,000 • Grand Draw (April 1): ₱1,000,000
HOW TO JOIN: Key in QUIZspaceJOINspace<name>/<address> and send to 288. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS: Key in QUIZspace<question number>space<answer> and send to 288. For more info, key in HELP QUIZ and send to 288.

‘Music for Life’ is a mixed bag of OPM treats

By Noelani Torre

WE prefer to listen to rock, jazz, alternative, and classical music. When there's a radio around, we try to have it on NU 107, Crossover, or on the Master's Touch as much as possible.

We didn't see anything wrong with this until a friend sniffed and told us that we were snobs. She said our tastes leaned more to western music and that we should listen to OPM, Original Pinoy Music, as well. Feeling a little guilty, since she was right, we decided to practice a little PAGASA (Piliin at Gamitin ang Sariling Atin).

In an effort to broaden our musical horizons, we picked up some collections of OPM and sat down to listen. Among the CDs we listened to was the compilation made by the ABS-CBN radio station WRR101.9, "Music for Life: The Best OPM Hits."

The best, the cover said, so we thought we wouldn't be subjected to the wailing, moaning, and double-meaning songs that some local singers seem to prefer. Well, it turned out that we weren't, thank God, but it wasn't that good a listening experience, either.

Composed of 14 tracks of mostly recent releases, "Music for Life" has a slightly misleading title. It doesn't exactly contain "the best of OPM," for one thing.

Most of the songs are OK, but they're not exactly classics that would linger on in the heart and mind. Perhaps they should have included a date—say, 2000-2001?

Rendition

The collection begins with Ariel Rivera's rendition of (Rene Novelles') "A Smile in Your Heart" culled from his album "Aawitin Ko Na Lang." There's no denying that Ariel has a great voice, and we are soothed by the excellent crooning abilities he displays in this song.

This is also fast becoming a jukebox favorite and we know of at least four couples who consider this their theme song.

Surprised smiles

Next in line is Rivermaya's "Rodeo" from their album "It's Not Easy Being Green," which elicited a lot of surprised smiles when it started to play. With its foot-tapping rhythm, we found ourselves singing along even though we didn't fully understand what we were singing about.

It took a closer listening to discern some of the lyrics that puzzled us a bit like "like the buffalos do it by the wishing well 'cause they haven't got no money for a cheap motel" and "what sweeter thing could happen to a girl and a boy, we got to do it like mechanical rabbits from hell." It turned out that what we first heard really were the right lyrics. Kinda weird, as members of my generation would say, but fun nevertheless.

The third track is (Jose Mari Chan's) "Afraid for Love to Fade" by The Company from their album "Recycle Deluxe It." This definitely sounds like a Jose Mari Chan piece – soft and sentimental. The Company doesn't let us down in the vocal rendering either, and they've helped make this song a favorite choice for romantic music.

Track four is "Maybe This Time" sung by Dingdong Avanzado from his album "Recall." (Uh, excuse us, but this isn't OPM, is it?) This is an old favorite (we've been hearing it since we were kids) and we have heard it mangled so badly in karaoke and videoke bars that it's a relief to hear it being sung well by Dingdong.

"Wait For Me," performed by the J. Brothers from their album "New Horizons," didn't go down that well with us. ("Skip please," our roommate groaned.) The lead singer's voice reminded us too much of April Boy's, whom we don't exactly care for, and we've never been much of a fan of this kind of Taglish (e.g. "Wait for me, *aking mahal...*").

CHAN. Two compositions in the compilation.

"Sa 'Yong Mundo" by Yman from his album "Galaktik Gimik" was an improvement after "Wait For Me," but there isn't anything particularly stellar about it. We didn't like the whispered rap part and we thought there was a bit of E-heads flavor scattered liberally throughout.

Robbie Navarro's rendition of "Kung Hindi Lang Dahil Sa Iyo" was OK. (Truly, we can find no other adjective.) It didn't quite reach us and the other people's reactions were more or less the same – indifferent.

Recognizable

The eighth track is another Jose Mari Chan song, "Can We Just Stop and Talk Awhile," sung by Lea Salonga. The voice is instantly recognizable, of course. And Lea sounds great, as usual, what with those highly trained vocal chords and lungs. "Maselang Bahaghari" from the Eraserheads' "Natin 99" is very ``sing-along-able." Some say that the E-heads are not as great as they used to be, but we think this song is just fine. *(To be concluded)*

Favorites dominate US People's Choice awards

By Kevin Krolicki

LOS ANGELES—The NBC hospital series "ER" was named favorite television drama for the ninth consecutive year by the voting public as perennial favorites dominated the People's Choice Awards on Sunday.

Eighth award

Julia Roberts, one of Hollywood's most bankable stars, was picked as favorite movie actress, her eighth award in the televised popularity contest that kicked off Hollywood's award season with confirmation that the hearts and minds of fans have not budged much.

And in a rerun of last year's results, the NBC sitcom "Friends" was named favorite television comedy and Jennifer Anniston, who co-stars in the series, was honored as favorite female television performer.

The awards were based on the results of a nationwide telephone poll conducted by the Gallup Organization between November 2000 and October 2001.

The early cutoff in the polling meant respondents, who were able to name any performer or series they liked, had not seen movie hits such as "Monsters, Inc." and "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," both of which were released in November.

Results

Fans were able to vote online in two categories: favorite new television comedy series and favorite new drama. The results for those two categories were not immediately available.

HANKS. Won over Mel Gibson and Denzel Washington.

Tom Hanks won two awards, edging out last year's winner, Mel Gibson, and Denzel Washington, as favorite movie actor, and besting Washington and Anthony Hopkins to be named favorite movie star in a drama.

Country music star Reba McEntire won her ninth People's Choice award, but her first as an actress.

She was named favorite female performer for "Reba," a WB comedy series in which she stars as a Texas soccer mom struggling to keep her dysfunctional family from falling further apart.

Damon Wayans, who plays a worried family man in the ABC sitcom "My Wife and Kids," was selected favorite male performer in a new series.

The 28th annual People's Choice Awards were announced live on CBS in a ceremony held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

Kelsey Grammer, the star of NBC's "Frasier," and Ray Romano of CBS sitcom "Everybody Loves Raymond," tied in the polling for favorite male television performer.

Loyal fans

The fans remained especially loyal in the music category. Country stars Garth Brooks and Faith Hill were named favorite individual performers in a repeat of last year's results.

Pop group 'N Sync was also picked again as favorite musical group or band, beating out the Backstreet Boys and Dixie Chicks.

The computer-animated comedy "Shrek" was chosen as favorite movie, ahead of "The Fast and the Furious" and "Pearl Harbor."

The awards show was the first of the year's award events, which include next week's Golden Globes and the Academy Awards in March. *Reuters*

Filipino filmmakers urged to unite

By Ramon Rey E. Bayron

THE BEST thing about Cinemanila 2001 was the singular call echoed by a most unlikely personality during one of the festival's events that, if and when heeded, would strengthen the foundations of an important part of Philippine society, the movie industry. With the recent turn of events in show biz, the urgency of the message has become even more pronounced.

The call effectively emphasized the need for the industry to achieve genuine unity.

Forum

The occasion was a forum on film directing. The discussion was relatively routine until a member of the audience asked this question: "Why are Asian films from places like Iran, Taiwan and Hong Kong making inroads in Europe and the US, while Filipino movies haven't? or something to that effect. The panel to which the query was thrown was composed of directors Raymond Red, Tikoy Aguiluz and Marilou Diaz-Abaya.

Each director answered the query promptly, Abaya eloquently explaining the "want of new ideas" in Filipino films, and Aguiluz cited the creative control of studios through the present setup of having committees approves a script, and Red noted the success of Thai and Taiwaneese abroad.

That was when a Caucasian in the audience spoke up: "Excuse me. But I have to cut you off. That's not true!"

Festival organizer

Red gave him the floor, and he turned put to be a Belgian film festival organizer. He said, "I'm sorry, I have to disagree that Filipino movies are inferior to other Asian films." He then cited the international filmfest victories of "the great actress Vilma Santos," and of director Chito Roño and his film "Bata, Bata," then went on to remind direk Tikoy of his "Rizal sa Dapitan's" victory.

He added, "I showed a Tagalog movie to a French film enthusiast and she exclaimed 'My goodness, this movie is good. And the actors, they're all so professional!'"

We felt goosebumps and were awed by this Belgian's defense of Tagalog movies. He seemed to be prouder of Tagalog movies than most of us in the audience! It was indeed an eye-opener and in a way, a "humiliating" one at that, to realize how defeatist our attitude has been against ourselves. It had to take a foreigner from Europe to remind us of our potentials and how good we are now.

Big party

But it doesn't end there. Without being asked, another European offered a piece of advice to the directors, one that was really meant for the whole industry: "Market your movies. Market them well. You know what the Thais did? The government threw a big party and invited film buyers from all over the world and introduced their films. That's how movies are sold everywhere."

And this is the clincher: the Belgian film exec said, "Remember to speak well of each other. Unite. In France, you will never find a director who says something bad about another French director. They always say, we're all good, watch our movies."

To which this writer could only say, "Amen!"

Recognition for independent films

From page D1

based on the long-running Off-Broadway hit, revolves around a German-born wannabe rock star left with a one-inch penis after a botched sex-change operation.

"They're not your mainstream studio subjects, not your predictable three-act structure with a happy ending," Dawn Hudson, executive director of IFP/West, told Reuters at the nominations news conference.

Neither was a huge box office hit either. "L.I.E." grossed about $1 million in North American theaters, while "Hedwig" ended up with about $3 million.

Breakout hit

But "Memento" was breakout hit, grossing about $25 million. The film, which is told in reverse, stars Australian actor Guy Pearce as a man plagued by short-term memory loss who must find the person who raped and murdered his wife.

The race for best director will pit Cuesta against John Cameron Mitchell ("Hedwig") Christopher Nolan ("Memento"), Richard Linklater ("Waking Life") and Cheryl Dunye ("Stranger Inside").

"L.I.E" star Cox will compete for best male lead against Ryan Gosling ("The Believer"), Jake Gyllenhaal ("Donnie Darko"), Mitchell ("Hedwig") and Tom Wilkinson ("In The Bedroom").

The actresses up for best female lead include Kim Dickens ("Things Behind The Sun"), Molly Parker ("The Center of the World"), Sissy Spacek ("In The Bedroom"), Tilda Swinton ("The Deep End"), and Kerry Washington ("Lift").

Best screenplay

Nolan and Linklater were also nominated for best screenplay, along with Milo Addica and Will Rokos ("Monster's Ball"), Henry Bean "The Believer") and Rob Festinger and Todd Field ("In The Bedroom").

Provocative filmmaker John Waters, best known for such works as "Hairspray" and "Pink Flamingos," will return as host of this year's Independent Spirit Awards ceremony. *Reuters*

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM JAN. 26 - FEB. 1

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	31
	5:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7:00 Arriba, Arriba 8:00 Mary D' Potter 9:00 Da Pilya en Da Pilot 10:00 Kakasa Ka Ba? 10:30 Sapul Kayo Dyan 11:00 "F" 11:30 Sports Unlimited	6:00 Final Drive 6:30 Auto Review 7:00 Barcelona Battle of the Gold Medalists 9:00 Fox News 10:00 The Working President 11:00 Auto Focus 12:00 Fox News	6:30 Wing Commander 7:00 Sailormoon Super S 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Celebrity Feud 8:30 Wow Mali! 9:30 Eezy Dancing 10:30 Saturday Night Specials *The Lottery*	5:30 Pokemon 6:00 Imbestigador 7:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8:00 Kakabakaba 9:00 Pinoy Blockbuster 11:00 Master Showman Presents	6:00 Star Trek 7:00 Special Unit II 8:00 Strange World 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Class Reunion* 11:00 PGMA	8:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:00 Kagat Ng Dilim 11:00 IBC Elorde	6:00 Digital Tour 6:30 G2 Living 7:00 Explorer 7:30 Early Edition 8:30 Gilmore Girls 9:30 Studio 23 Presents 12:00 MYX Sampler	3:00 Q Show Case 7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	6:30 E! Coming Attractions 7:00 25 Sexiest Men in Entertainment 8:00 People's Choice Awards 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut 11:30 Extreme Close Up
	5:30 Sharon 7:00 Digimon 7:30 Wansapanataym 9:00 Pinoy Exposed 9:30 ABS-CBN Presents 11:30 Off The Record 12:00 The Weekend News	6:00 Fox News 8:00 Street Legal 9:00 NBA 11:00 Business & Leisure 12:00 Fox News	6:00 Zorro 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Price Is Right 8:00 Sing-Galing 9:00 The Big Night *The Temp* 11:00 Sentinel	5:30 Partners Mel and Jay 7:00 KI 8:00 Daddy Di Do Du 9:00 Sunday Night Box Office 11:30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents	6:00 Entertainment This Weekend 7:00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 Where In Time is Carmen San Diego 8:30 Kids Say the Darndest Thing 9:00 Sunday's Big Event *The Juror* 11:00 Sunday Report	4:00 PBA Game 1 6:30 PBA Game 2 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Sinemaks 11:30 El Shaddai	6:00 Starship Troopers 6:30 Rugrats 7:00 Batman Beyond 7:30 Futurama 8:00 Bette 8:30 Veronica's Closet 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 Murder in Small town X 10:30 Twilight Zone 11:00 News Central	5:00 Quartermaster Window Shop 7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night Movies 11:00 Bikini Open	8:00 The 2002 Golden Globes 10:00 The 2002 Golden Globes (Post Show) 12:00 E! Coming Attractions
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 8:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 9:00 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:30 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 10:00 FPJ Action Cinema 11:00 Headlines 11:30 The Correspondents	6:00 Fox News 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Fox News 10:30 Unlimited Diving 11:00 Fox News	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 F 7:00 Mahha Go Go Go 7:30 Wheel Of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 Touched By An Angel 9:30 Trabaho Lang 10:00 The Big News 10:30 High Tide	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Sana ay Ikaw Na Nga 7:00 Hunter X Hunter 7:30 Dragonball Z 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 GMA's Best 10:30 Front Page 11:00 I-Witness	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Becker 7:30 Artiss 8:00 World's Most Amazing Videos 9:00 The X-Files 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight 11:00 Sex & The City	5:30 Viva Music Channel 6:30 Viva Box Office 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 The Weakest Link 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:00 Beat UK 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Hidden Camera 8:00 Dark Angel 9:00 Charmed 10:00 News Central 10:30 Points of View 11:30 Travel Time	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Daily 7:00 In Focus *Hollywood Private Eyes* 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:30 E! News Daily 10:00 60 Minutes 11:00 Wild On *Jamaica*
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 8:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 9:00 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:30 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 10:00 Oka Tokat 10:30 Kabalikat 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Pipol	4:00 PBL 6:00 Fox News 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Pulsong Masa 11:00 Fox News	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Dragon League 7:00 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7:30 Wheel of Fortune . 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 E.R. 9:30 Urban Doktor 10:00 The Big News 10:30 FX The Series	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Sana ay Ikaw Na Nga 7:00 Hunter X Hunter 7:30 Dragonball Z 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Kool Ka Lang 10:30 Front Page 11:00 The Probe Team	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Ed 8:00 Ally McBeal 9:00 The Practice 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight 11:30 The Extremist	6:30 Viva Box Office 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 The Weakest Link 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:30 Storytellers 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Popular 8:30 The Others 9:30 Just Shoot Me 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:30 E! News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile *Janine Turner* 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 Celebrity Homes 9:30 E! News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut 11:30 Extreme Close Up
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 8:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 9:00 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:30 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 10:00 Whattamen 10:30 Your Honor 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Private Conversation	4:00 Value Vision 6:00 Fox News 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Paco Park Presents 11:00 Fox News	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Pygmalio 7:00 Time Quest 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 Friends 9:00 That '70s Show 9:30 Planet X 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Philippines Most Wanted	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Sana ay Ikaw Na Nga 7:00 Hunter X Hunter 7:30 Dragonball Z 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Beh Bote Nga 10:00 Larawan 10:30 Front Page 11:30 Jessica Soho Reports	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Level 9 8:00 Roswell 9:00 Buffy the Vampire Slayer 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight 11:00 Wrestling	5:00 PBA Game 1 7:30 PBA Game 2 9:30 The Weakest Link 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:00 Behind The Music 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:00 Primetime Classics 7:30 Scariest Places 8:30 Game Plan 9:00 The District 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Daily 7:00 In Focus *Paparazzi* 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:00 Fashion Emergency 9:30 E! News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On *Riviera '99*
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 8:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 9:00 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:30 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 10:00 Attagirl 10:30 Maalaala Mo Kaya 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Isyu 101	4:00 PBL 6:00 Fox News 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 NBA 12:00 Fox News	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Shulato 7:00 Fancy Lala 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 Guinnes World Records 9:30 The Exchange 10:00 The Big News 10:30 By Request	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Sana ay Ikaw Na Nga 7:00 Hunter X Hunter 7:30 Dragonball Z 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Kasangga 10:00 Sa Dako Pa Roon 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Debate with Mare at Pare	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Clueless 8:00 Felicity 9:00 Once and Again 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight 11:00 48 Hours	6:30 Viva Box Office 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 The Weakest Link 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:30 MYX Concerts 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Cineplex 23 9:30 Guide to Urban Living 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 Celebrity Homes 9:30 E! News Daily 10:30 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut 11:30 Extreme Close Up 12:00 Talk Soup
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 8:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 9:00 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:30 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 10:00 Star Cinema Presents 11:00 Headlines 11:30 True Crime	4:00 Value Vision 6:00 Fox News 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Patrol 117 11:00 Concert at the Park 12:00 Fox News	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Lazer Patrol 7:00 Starcom 7:30 Wheel Of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 Ispup 9:30 On-Air 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Friday Box Office	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Sana ay Ikaw Na Nga 7:00 Hunter X Hunter 7:30 Dragonball Z 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Bubble Gang 10:00 GMA Love Stories 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Emergency	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 That's Life 8:00 Dharma & Greg 8:30 Nikki 9:00 Largo 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 TV Greats on Friday	5:00 PBA Game 1 7:30 PBA Game 2 9:30 The Weakest Link 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	5:30 Halo-Halo 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Survivor 8:30 Mortal Combat 9:30 Oh Grow Up! 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 MYX Sampler	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Daily 7:00 In Focus 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:00 Fashion Emergency 9:30 E! News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On *Adventure* 12:00 Talk Soup

'Encroaching conservatism' at MTRCB

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WHY did "American Adobo" get an R (For Adults) classification from the MTRCB? We've seen the film, and it's obviously much less thematically and visually provocative than other "R" recipients like "Tatarin" and "Hubog."

There's a little nudity, but it's of the comical sort and is certainly no prurient turn-on. Some of the movie's themes may be mature, but hardly the shocking sort that young people can't take. So, what's the problem?

We've done some asking around, and some people say that one possible factor is the rise in the number of "conservative" members of the board, as opposed to the "liberal" ones who held relative sway a couple of years ago.

If the committee assigned to classify a movie is made up predominantly of conservative types, a stricter classification may be the result, even if the film is not that provocative.

Another factor is the lack of a "transition" classification between "PG-13" and "R." As a result, board members tend to go "R" instead of "PG-13" when a question of judgement presents itself.

If an additional category, say "PG-16" or "R-16" were implemented, a borderline film could get a less restrictive classification while still sending out the appropriate warning signals that the movie may have some elements that youths may not be mature enough to adequately handle.

We've been told that such an "interim" classification has already been approved, but has yet to be implemented. If this is true, then perhaps the board can speed up the activation process, so that films like "American Adobo" are better evaluated.

This is a matter of concern, because some youths would have benefited from the movie's depiction of the *Pinoy* expatriate experience, an important aspect of our life as a people, both here and abroad.

Now, about that other issue, the "encroaching conservatism" of the MTRCB: this should be investigated in greater detail by liberal organizations, to prevent the situation from deteriorating further.

Despite its best motives, the MTRCB should realize that its decisions should, as mandated, be based on *prevailing community standards*, not on the subjective standards of the so-called moral minority or even majority, as the case may be.

Australia has golden day at the Globes

By Mike Corder

CROWE. Will he become the third man to win back-to-back best actor Oscars?

SYDNEY, Australia—Actors Nicole Kidman, Russell Crowe, Judy Davis and Rachel Griffiths were the toast of Australia on Tuesday along with director Baz Luhrmann as the nation reveled in its success at the Golden Globe awards.

Gold rush

"Our gold rush," gushed Sydney tabloid The Daily Telegraph in a headline over a huge front-page photo of Kidman clutching her globe for best actress in a picture, musical or comedy awarded for her role in "Moulin Rouge."

Luhrmann's frenetic film about life and love in a Paris night club also picked up awards for best picture, musical or comedy and best original score.

Inside spread

On an inside spread splashed with pictures of Australian stars at the Los Angeles ceremony, the Telegraph labeled the local showing "Global Domination."

Other Australians recognized by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association were Judy Davis, honored as best actress in a miniseries or movie made for television for her role in "Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" and Rachel Griffiths, who picked up the award for best supporting actress in a series, miniseries or movie made for television for "Six Feet Under."

Farm

Crowe, a New Zealander by birth who owns a farm in eastern Australia and reportedly is planning to take out citizenship, won the best actor award for his role in "A Beautiful Life."

National broadsheet The Australian saw the award as a strong pointer to Crowe becoming only the third man to win back-to-back best actor Oscars. Last year Crowe got the honor for his starring role in "Gladiator."

Hanks and Tracy

If Crowe were to win the Oscar he would follow Tom Hanks, who won in 1994 and 1995 for "Philadelphia" and "Forrest Gump," and Spencer Tracy, winner in 1937 and 1938 for "Captains Courageous" and "Boys Town."

Crowe's "quest to become only the third winner of back-to-back best actor Oscars received a Hollywood-sized boost yesterday," The Australian wrote on its front page.

The strong Australian showing at the award ceremony was also heralded by the local film industry.

Success

"Inevitably, success like this adds profile to Australia as a nation but also to the industry in particular," Kim Dalton, chief executive of the Australian Film Commission said in a radio interview.

Spotlight

"That means, for Australian filmmakers, it throws the spotlight onto them and brings more attention to Australia as a place that films can be made in."

Crowe agreed.

"It's an indication we may be a long way away, but we've got all the modern technology and we try to keep up with you," Crowe said after receiving his award. "Cinema in Australia is held very dear by the fans." **AP**

Is a Leandro-Jolina romance in the offing?

By Ricky T. Gallardo

LEANDRO Muñoz admits that he has grown fond of Jolina Magdangal, his leading lady in the film "Kung Ikaw Ay Isang Panaginip."

He shares that Jolina has been his constant textmate. "I feel light when I'm with her. We jell very well with each other," he adds.

For her part, Jolina feels she's old enough at 23 to think about matters of the heart. "But one thing I'm sure of, I won't get into a relationship just for kicks or *para lang magka*boyfriend," she says.

The main problem she encounters with potential suitors has to do with their constancy. "Many send feelers, but can't sustain their outpouring of attention and affection. I'm looking for someone who's consistent." Get her drift, Leandro?

Joey G can hold his own

It was a surprise move on the part of the Crossover station to pick Joey Generoso, lead vocalist of Side A, to be its featured artist for its first concert series of the year. We had our apprehensions, but when we caught the concert at Captain's Bar recently, Joey G did okay. It took him almost half an hour to warm up, but there was no denying that he gave it his best shot.

He started to shine when he sang Five for Fighting's "Superman." He gave his all when he did Aerosmith's "I Don't Want to Miss A Thing," but Joey's version sounded too much like a copy of the original. Of course, he made sure he included Side A's signature hits "Forever More" and "Tell Me," which drew sustained ovations from the crowd.

Joey G had Mitch Valdes as front act, and as always, Mitch was a blast! In fact, our Canadian companion that night described her as a Kathy Bates look-alike who has the energy and talent of Bette Midler!

Luis Alandy's big break

Patience is a virtue for Luis Alandy. After being launched in the movie "Luv Text" last year, Alandy's dream of bagging a lead role has come true in the film, "Kung May Pag-ibig Pa?" with no less than Judy Ann Santos for her leading lady.

Like any new actor whose movie is about to be shown, Alandy admits to having the jitters. But he worked hard on the film, and he's hoping for the best!

Boboy Garrovillo stands tall

Diminutive but still debonair-looking Boboy Garrovillo is a delight to watch on stage and on screen. We caught him recently playing an out of this world character in Tanghalang Pilipino's production of Carlo Goldoni's "Il Buglardo" (*Ang Sinungaling*).

MUÑOZ. Jolina has become his textmate.

Boboy plays the impresario Lelio in this classic comedy about an incorrigible liar who lived in 18th century Venice. Boboy fits the opulent staging which uses a Beijing opera framework. His presence is subtle yet sweeping and his lines are clearly delivered.

Other notable performances are turned in by Rosanna Ordoñez as Rosaura, McDonnel Bollanos as Ottavio, and Roeder as Pantalone.

Boboy also has a small yet significant role as Jolina Magdangal's dad in the movie "Kung Ikaw Ay Isang Panaginip." We reckon that it's perfect casting since Boboy and Jolina look alike.

Natural goes on promo tour

YOU swoon just hearing their voices on the radio and you practically go nuts when MTV shows their music video.

But why settle for mere fantasies when your favorite music channel can make your wish to get really up close and personal with the hot boy-band, Natural?

And we really mean up-close, as the five cute and talented guys behind the chart-topping single, "Put Your Arms Around Me" serenade MTV-Philippines viewers early next month. This promo is part of Natural's Manila tour on Feb. 5, 6 and 7.

Unique event

To make the event even more memorable, MTV will film this unique event—from start to finish—and feature it on "Be Seen @ MTV."

How do you get one step closer to your dream? Grab that pen and paper and tell MTV the five ingredients that make a boy band great.

Write your name, address and contact numbers and send your entries to MTV "Bring the Boys Home" contest, P.O. box 1696, Makati Central Post Office, 1256 Makati City, Philippines.

You can also fax your entries through 633-5694 or e-mail them through beseen@mtv-asia.com.

All entries should be in by Feb. 8. Make sure its on your door that they'll be knocking this Feb. 9, the big date of the contest!

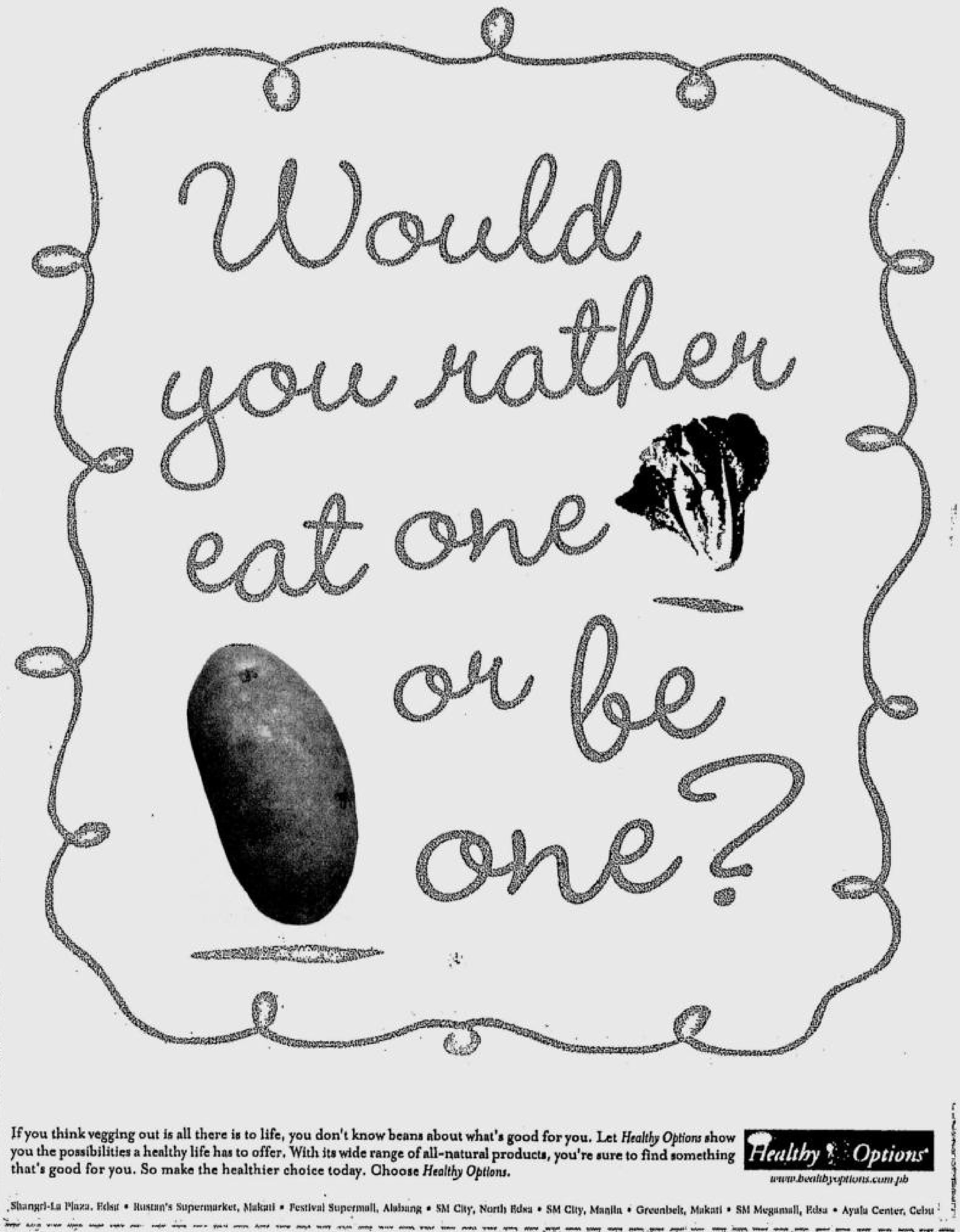
Sensation

Natural, the newest boy-band sensation, is comprised of Ben Bledsoe, 'J' Josh Horn, Michael Johnson, Patrick King, Jr. and Marc Terenzi. Each member plays his own musical instrument.

This makes them more Beatles than Backstreet Boys, although they're influenced by both.

Call MTV 848-1321 or Trans Continental records Manila Inc. at 817-5926.

NATURAL. More Beatles than Backstreet Boys, because they play their own musical instruments.


Would you rather eat one or be one?

If you think vegging out is all there is to life, you don't know beans about what's good for you. Let *Healthy Options* show you the possibilities a healthy life has to offer. With its wide range of all-natural products, you're sure to find something that's good for you. So make the healthier choice today. Choose *Healthy Options*.

Healthy Options
www.healthyoptions.com.ph

Shangri-La Plaza, Edsa • Rustan's Supermarket, Makati • Festival Supermall, Alabang • SM City, North Edsa • SM City, Manila • Greenbelt, Makati • SM Megamall, Edsa • Ayala Center, Cebu

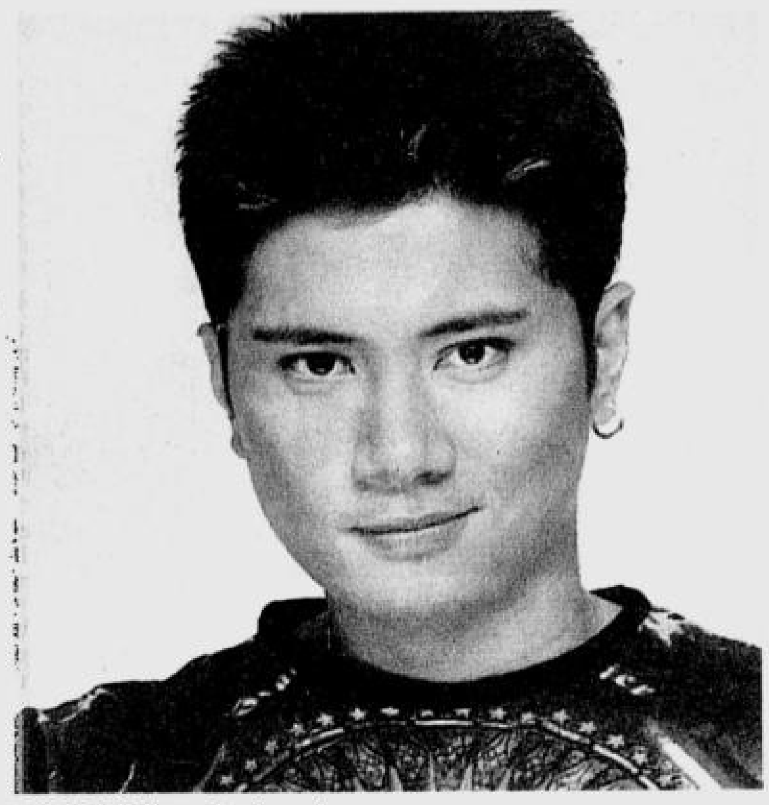
Please fill out this coupon and present at any *Healthy Options* branch to get a SPECIAL GIFT.

Personal Information
Name: ____ SURNAME FIRST NAME M.I. Birthday: __/__/__ MM DD YYYY
Address: ____ NO. STREET VILLAGE MUNICIPALITY CITY ZIP CODE
☎: ____ ✆: ____ 🖷: ____

Do you experience any of the following?
Please check all that apply to you.
○ Arthritis
○ Diabetes
○ Weight problems
○ Hypertension
○ Food allergies
○ Heart ailment
○ Liver problems
○ Menopause
○ Others ____

Are you a *Healthy Options* customer? ○ yes ○ no

2002 plans and hopes of Janno, Lani and Assunta



GIBBS. Well-received movies.

By Jocelyn Valle

THE YEAR 2001 was extra spe cial for Janno Gibbs, Lani Misalucha and Assunta de Rossi. They made new inroads in their respective fields, and the public is expectedly eager to know what the three stars have in store this year.

Multimedia performer

Janno was able to prove that he is truly a multimedia performer to reckon with when he starred in well-received movies ("Tusong Twosome," "Juan and Ted: Wanted" and "Weyt a Minute, Kapeng Mainit"), recorded a collection of duets with some of the country's finest female singers ("Divas and I") and headlined a concert at the Araneta Coliseum, while continuing to shine on television (Channel 7's "Beh, Bote Nga" and "SOP").

"*Mahirap i*-surpass *'yun*," he admits, shaking his head. "I won't even try. OK *na ako sa* regular job *ko* (mostly on TV, some singing engagements and a couple of movies)."

Unlike the singer-actor, who's been steadily in the biz for more than a decade, Lani was only recognized by the public and the industry last year (she used to sing in music bars and on multiplex tapes) by conquering both the Araneta Coliseum and the Sentrong Pangkultura ng Pilipinas (CCP).

Certified diva

But becoming a certified diva (by measuring up to the criteria of the majority: can scale and sustain unbelievably high notes) has made Lani susceptible to pressures. "There's always something that the public expects from the artist," she allows. "*Dapat lagpasan kung anuman 'yung na*-achieve *mo na*."

"I don't know if I'm dealing with the pressures *nga, e*," she admits, grinning. "I'm having all these apprehensions. *Ano pa nga ba ang magagawa ko*? I can't say what's gonna happen in a few years. *Hindi naman 'bahala na' ang* attitude *ko d'yan. Basta* I'll try to do my best to please the people."

Lani crosses her fingers, that with the release of her new studio album (her latest is the live recording of her Araneta gig) this year, she can finally have a huge hit song to her name. After all, people can more easily recall a three-minute tune than remember the details of a two-hour concert.

After establishing herself as a screen siren in 2001 (her first two solo movies, "Red Diaries" and "Sisid," were both controversial moneymakers, while her third starrer, "Hubog," won for her a Best Actress trophy in the recently concluded Metro Manila Film Festival), Assunta is bent on launching her singing career in 2002.

Singing voice

In fact, her recording label is only waiting for the sexy star (who also has three regular shows on GMA 7: "Beh, Bote Nga," "Sa Dako Pa Roon" and "Bubble Gang") to finish two more movies and we'll be hearing Assunta's singing voice on the airwaves pretty soon. "*Pero 'wag silang mag*-expect *ng* naughty songs from me," she stresses. "Dance music *na a la* Jennifer Lopez *ang gagawin ko*."

Although Janno, Lani and Assunta feel upbeat about their plans this year, they are nonetheless cognizant of the current gloom and doom.

Filipinos should not lose hope, though, they tell us. "*Marami na ngang nangyayari dito sa atin*," Lani points out. "So if we're going to succumb to another depression, it will definitely just pull us down. We should always remember that there's alway something to look forward to."

Optimistic

"I should always feel optimistic," she adds. "Because I have a family to think of. I can't just give up. *Kung nag-iisip ako ng kalungkutan*, they can also feel that. I always look at the brighter side of life. There's always something good that will happen to us."

Janno, on the other hand, believes that Filipinos are resilient. "*Palagay ko hindi tayo mahihirapan sa mga nangyayari*," he avers. "*Sa lahat ng bansa, tayo 'yung hindi iniinda ang mga problema*. We know how to handle adversities and sufferings. *Pero minsan, 'yun din ang problema natin*, complacent *tayo. Minsan sobra tayo sa 'OK na rin!*'"

Assunta's solution? "We can only pray and believe that we can do it," she offers. "We should also unite. *'Yun ang kulang sa atin*."

SWITCHING CHANNELS

Carlos Agassi says provincial audiences really 'wild'

By Edmund L. Sicam

AGASSI. Wholesome image.

SERVO. Shy and unassuming.

TOP ABS-CBN talent Carlos Agassi has embarked on a nationwide concert tour as the official endorser of Dickies apparel. The tour was launched last week at Hard Rock Cafe. Yesterday, he entertained the youth of Iloilo City at Barracks.

The rest of his schedule follows: Feb. 1, Quorum, Bacolod City; Feb. 2, Hard Rock Cafe, Makati City; Feb. 22, The Venue, Davao City; March 1, El Camino, Dumaguete City; March 2, Ratsky, Cebu.

The rapper has been to the provinces in previous outings and he is quite excited about his out-of-town trips because of the audiences. "They're really wild," says Carlos. "I mean that in a good way. The audiences really let their hair down and that energizes me a lot.

Carlos has parlayed his success as a rapper to get his career going. He's quite visible on television with his soap, "Pangako Sa 'Yo" and on the concert scene as an individual artist, and with his group, The Hunks.

Carlos is the only local talent officially identified with Dickies. Abroad, talents like Madonna, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, N Sync, Hanson and Sugar Ray are fans of the brand.

The TV soap star is a favorite of advertisers who want to target the youth market. A major factor is his wholesome image.

At a recent presscon, Carlos admitted he turned down an offer to do a stage play, "Rocky Horror Show" because it would have required him to go onstage partially nude. "I was flattered by the offer," he says. "I've always wanted to do a stage production but I'm not yet ready for that kind of role."

Yul Servo stars in two telesines

Yul Servo, star of "Batang Westside," has impressed many who watched his movie at the Cinemanila filmfest but his name is largely unfamiliar to local audiences. The Lav Diaz movie will have its regular run in May.

Ironically, Yul has already finished two telesines which could have enlarged his following in a mass medium like television. Unfortunately, his handlers want "Batang Westside" to show in several theaters before his TV dramas are aired. The telesines are also produced by the person behind "Batang Westside."

Yul has already done guestings on other TV dramas but they were all minor roles. The young actor was discovered by director Maryo delos Reyes, who still has to direct him in a movie. Maryo was already set to handle his ward in a motion picture but last minute hitches led to the postponement of the project. The director, however, is set to work with Yul in a forthcoming film.

We found Yul quite shy and unassuming when we talked to him recently. He gave very short answers for many of our questions. With more exposure, Yul should gain the confidence he needs to further his career.

Ricky Davao feels proud to be part of a landmark movie

By Remy M. Umerez

FOR the record, "American Adobo" is the first and only Filipino movie to open simultaneously in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Lino Brocka's "Orapronobis (Fight For Us)" "Bona " and "Macho Dancer" had theatrical exhibition in America but only after their initial release in Manila. The release of "American Adobo " in the US came weeks ahead of its Manila playdate (it opened here on Jan. 16). In charge of the film's worldwide distribution is the independent outfit Outrider Pictures.

Joint venture

"American Adobo" is a joint venture of ABS-CBN Entertainment, Tony Gloria of Unitel Pictures, scriptwriter Vincent "Ting" Nebrida and Kevin Foxe, who was the executive producer of the surprise hit "The Blair Witch Project."

Award-winning director Laurice Guillen megs the film which chronicles the lives of Filipino immigrants in America, with the stories woven over servings of *adobo* during the groups get-togethers.

The movie begins with Tere Sanchez (Cherry Pie Picache) hosting a dinner in her Queens apartment for a special friend visiting from Manila. Invited are their New York City-based friends and former college classmates—Mike Manalastas (Christopher de Leon), a newspaper editor; Marissa Tuazon (Dina Bonnevie) an attractive and vain socialite; Marissa's womanizing cousin Raul Arboleda (Paolo Montalban) and Gerry Payawal (Ricky Davao) a copywriter with an over-protective mother.

Experiences

Ricky shares some of his experiences while filming "American Adobo," which was shot entirely in the United States:

To start with, he feels very privileged to be included in the cast of professionals whom Guillen personally handpicked.

It was two months of serious work and special bonding with co-stars Dina, Christopher, Sandy and US-based Paolo.

Paolo was chosen by People Magazine as one of the 50 Most Beautiful People in 1998. He has appeared in the "Mortal Kombat" TV series where he plays Kung Lao, a young warrior and the reigning champion of the Mortal Kombat Tournament. He performed in the musical movie "Cinderella" as Prince Charming, alongside Brandy who played the title role and Whitney Houston as the Fairy Godmother.

"We worked 12 hours a day and went by the book. We couldn't improvise on the shooting schedule as it would mean paying more in dollars. Once an extra delivers a word there, he gets an additional fee. The only time Laurice got mad was when I failed to deliver my lines because I did not memorize them well.

American crew

"We worked with an American crew, who were amazed at how we could do a heavy scene in just one take. The crew called the director by her first name and Laurice liked that. Our only off day was Sunday, which we spent hearing Mass, doing laundry or shopping.

"Once I went to the laundry and they gave me a funny look because I didn't know how to operate the machine. I wanted to tell them that over here, there are maids who do the washing. I had dinner one time and after paying my bill, the waiter told me it wasn't enough. They strictly observe *pala* the 15 percent service charge," the actor relates.

It was in New York where Ricky became health-conscious. He was strolling when he suddenly felt dizzy and numb. He proceeded to the hospital and had a check-up. The results showed he has high cholesterol. He does workouts three times a week and has followed a strict diet since then. He has been successful in losing 15 pounds thus far.

Illness

Ricky's role in "American Adobo" is that of a closet homosexual dealing with the illness of his lover. This is the third time the actor is portraying a gay role. He was nominated for best actor in "Ang Lalaki sa Buhay ni Selya" but lost to Cesar Montano in "Rizal."

'Amazing Race' brings out the best and the worst in its contestants

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST Saturday, we watched an interesting game show on AXN—"The Amazing Race," in which teams of two people each were sent on a trip around the world, with the tandem who got to the final destination first winning a cool $1 million.

Better than 'Survivor'

Since travel is one of our favorite activities (some friends even refer to us as "Nestor Tourist"), we found this game show better than "Survivor." However, its hectic travel schedules, difficult objectives and high level of stress have definitely dissuaded us from thinking of joining the competition in the future!

Winning a million dollars is great, but all that stress would drastically limit the time left for you to enjoy it!

For some reason, AXN showed *three* episodes of "The Greatest Race" last Saturday, so we were able to get a really good grip on what the competition was all about. From France, the teams went to Tunisia, where they had to perform complex "tasks" before they could get their hands on the clues that would point them to their next destination.

Challenging

Some of the clues were difficult to decipher and the tasks were similarly challenging. In addition, travelling abroad is a dodgy proposition due to factors like unfamiliar language, customs, rules involving money, inaccurate maps and unreliable transport schedules. So, the teams had their work cut out for them just keeping from being left behind by their more aggressive competitors.

Early on, the race revealed itself to be a competition not just between the tandems, but also between each team's two partners themselves. You'd expect them to cooperate with one another, but the stress of the race told on them, and they were soon at each other's throats, complaining, nagging, bringing up old issues, screaming at each other, etc.

Real objective

Thus did it become clear that the game show's *real* objective was to teach partners how to get over their differences so they could truly work as a team and stand a better chance of winning the top prize.

Instructively, most of the tandems did learn that valuable lesson during the competition. As they neared the finish line (at the end of the last episode we viewed, only four pairs were left), they were squabbling less and had finally learned how to work together for a common objective.

Pariah

But one of the pairs became a pariah in the competition because it tried to prevent other pairs from getting on a plane to Rome. The tandem denied doing anything of the sort, but the TV cameras caught them plotting to make the move, and their goose was cooked for the rest of the race.

In the course of the three episodes we viewed, the competing tandems used, not only their brains but also a dizzying range of vehicles to travel all over the world—planes, trains, buses, taxis, motorcycles, bicycles, rickshaws, and even camels! Traveling this way may be exciting and fulfilling for inveterate tourists, and the hefty prize money is a very welcome incentive—but the round-the-world trip is murder on the behind!

Martin performs at the Big Dome Feb. 2

MONTAGE

MARTIN Nievera continues his concert tour, "Martin Nievera XV4ever—The Crossover Adventure Continues" on Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum. The tour kicked off at the Grand Ballroom of the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu last Jan. 19, followed by another performance at the La Salle Coliseum in Bacolod City on Jan. 26. Martin is also scheduled to visit the Freedom Ring Amphitheater at the Expo Filipino in Clark Field, Pampanga on Feb. 9.

For ticket reservations and delivery, call 844-2947 or 844-8159.

Natural in campus tour

Natural, the newest boy band from the same company that launched Backstreet Biys, Nsync, LFO and O-Town, will perform in a series of campus and mall tours on Feb. 5, 6 and 7.

The band's latest hit "Put Your Arms Around Me" is currently enjoying airplay on leading radio stations while its music video can be seen on MTV Philippines. The song has been on the Top Ten list of Billboard's Hot 100 Singles Sales Chart for the past three weeks.

Regine's Valentine concert

Regine Velasquez teams up with Brian McKnight in "Two for the Knight" on Feb. 14 and 15 at the Araneta Coliseum. McKnight is the voice behind international chart toppers "One Last Cry," "You Should Be Mine" and "Back at One." Call 911-5555. (***Compiled by Edmund L. Sicam***)

'Moulin Rouge' wins three Golden Globes

By Anthony Breznican

FORD. Lifetime achievement award.

BEVERLY HILLS, California—"A Beautiful Mind" was named best drama and its star Russell Crowe won the top dramatic actor trophy as the Golden Globes rewarded stories of love under the duress of madness, despair and illness.

"A Beautiful Mind" collected a leading four Globes Sunday night and was followed by triple winner "Moulin Rouge," which was awarded the Globe for best musical or comedy and earned a best actress honor for Nicole Kidman.

Conventional wisdom

If conventional wisdom holds, the Golden Globe recognition will be a boost for the Oscar chances of the two films when the Academy Awards are presented in March.

"A Beautiful Mind" captured the attention of Hollywood Foreign Press Association voters with its dramatization of the true-life story of Nobel prize-winning John Forbes Nash Jr., a schizophrenic math genius who rebuilds his life with the help of his devoted wife.

"I wanted to give a greater understanding to mental illness," said producer Brian Grazer. "And I hope in some way we achieved this."

The film also won for best screenplay for Akiva Goldsman and best supporting dramatic actress, Jennifer Connelly.

Mutual dedication

Although "A Beautiful Mind" omits and fictionalizes elements of the Nashes' lives, the movie was most concerned with dramatizing the mutual dedication of two suffering people, Connelly said.

"I think the essence of their story is really captured in the film," she said. "I think that the Nashes most importantly are happy with it, and that it accurately presents their story."

The hyperactive musical "Moulin Rouge" blended fantasy storytelling techniques and anachronistic pop songs in a tale of forbidden romance. Composer Craig Armstrong won for best original score, even though most of the music in the film was derived from famous pop songs.

Kidman plays a dying cabaret singer wallowing in sadness until a dashing romantic, played by Ewan McGregor, sweeps her off her feet.

"My hands are shaking," Kidman said. "This is really, really special because I never thought I'd be in a musical—let alone win an award for one."

The supporting dramatic actor honor went to Jim Broadbent for playing the husband of novelist Iris Murdoch, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, in "Iris."

Broadbent portrayed writer John Bayley, Murdoch's brilliant but childlike husband, who nursed his dying wife as her once-sharp mind deteriorated.

Scandals

Robert Altman took the directing honor for his murder-mystery satire "Gosford Park," which chronicles the scandals of English aristocrats through the eyes of their servants.

Sissy Spacek was named best dramatic actress for the dark drama "In the Bedroom," about a husband and wife who must reconcile after a family tragedy.

"I feel so blessed to get to do what I love to do and work with so many wonderfully talented people," Spacek said.

Gene Hackman earned the comedy actor Globe for his performance as the conniving head of a family of former child prodigies in "The Royal Tenenbaums."

Bosnia's "No Man's Land" received the foreign language film Globe. Sting was the victor in the movie song category for his romantic waltz "Until . . .," from the comedy "Kate & Leopold."

Absent during this year's telecast were the outrageous antics or remarks that have given the Globes notoriety. It showed that Hollywood is largely maintaining a toned-down attitude since the Sept. 11 attacks.

In the television categories, HBO's "Sex and the City" took best comedy and star Sarah Jessica Parker was cited as best comedic actress. The cable network's funeral home drama "Six Feet Under" was best drama series.

CIA agent

Charlie Sheen got the comedic actor award for ABC's "Spin City."

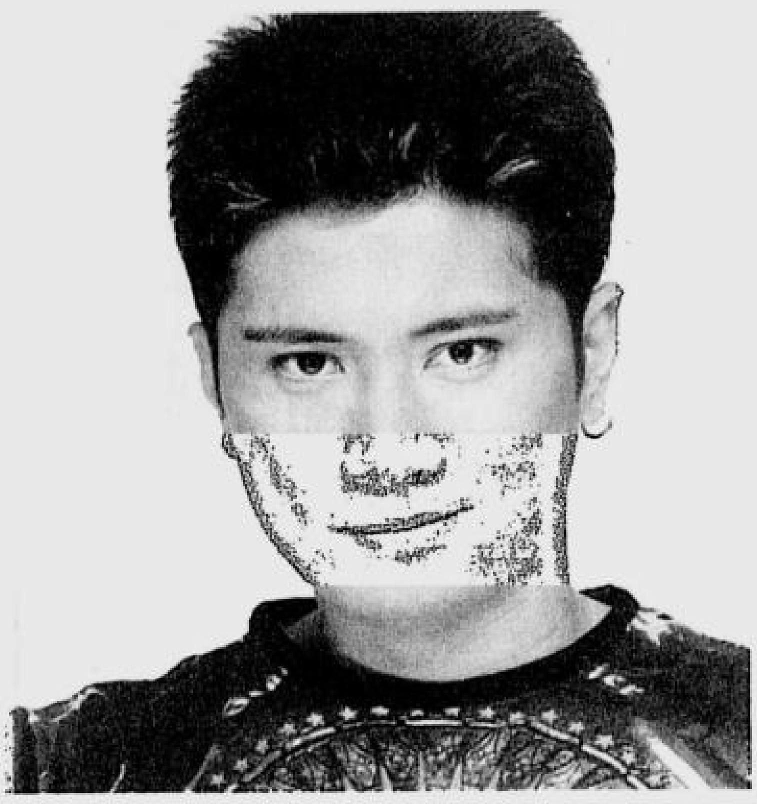
Kiefer Sutherland's role as a CIA agent in the real-time thriller "24" won a dramatic TV actor trophy, and Jennifer Garner claimed the dramatic TV actress award for playing a sexy spy in ABC's "Alias."

HBO's World War II drama "Band of Brothers" won best miniseries.

Judy Davis received the miniseries actress award for ABC's "Life With Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" and James Franco the miniseries actor prize for TNT's "James Dean."

Harrison Ford, star of the "Indiana Jones" adventures and the original "Star Wars" trilogy, took home the Cecil B. DeMille lifetime achievement award. **AP**

2002 plans and hopes of Janno, Lani and Assunta



GIBBS. Well-received movies.

By Jocelyn Valle

THE YEAR 2001 was extra special for Janno Gibbs, Lani Misalucha and Assunta de Rossi. They made new inroads in their respective fields, and the public is expectedly eager to know what the three stars have in store this year.

Multimedia performer

Janno was able to prove that he is truly a multimedia performer to reckon with when he starred in well-received movies ("Tusong Twosome," "Juan and Ted: Wanted" and "Weyt a Minute, Kapeng Mainit"), recorded a collection of duets with some of the country's finest female singers ("Divas and I") and headlined a concert at the Araneta Coliseum, while continuing to shine on television (Channel 7's "Beh, Bote Nga" and "SOP").

"*Mahirap i*-surpass *'yun*," he admits, shaking his head. "I won't even try. OK *na ako sa* regular job *ko* (mostly on TV, some singing engagements and a couple of movies)."

Unlike the singer-actor, who's been steadily in the biz for more than a decade, Lani was only recognized by the public and the industry last year (she used to sing in music bars and on multiplex tapes) by conquering both the Araneta Coliseum and the Sentrong Pangkultura ng Pilipinas (CCP).

Certified diva

But becoming a certified diva (by measuring up to the criteria of the majority: can scale and sustain unbelievably high notes) has made Lani susceptible to pressures. "There's always something that the public expects from the artist," she allows. "*Dapat lagpasan kung anuman 'yung na*-achieve *mo na*."

"I don't know if I'm dealing with the pressures *nga, e*," she admits, grinning. "I'm having all these apprehensions. *Ano pa nga ba ang magagawa ko*? I can't say what's gonna happen in a few years. *Hindi naman 'bahala na' ang* attitude *ko d'yan. Basta* I'll try to do my best to please the people."

Lani crosses her fingers, that with the release of her new studio album (her latest is the live recording of her Araneta gig) this year, she can finally have a huge hit song to her name. After all, people can more easily recall a three-minute tune than remember the details of a two-hour concert.

After establishing herself as a screen siren in 2001 (her first two solo movies, "Red Diaries" and "Sisid," were both controversial moneymakers, while her third starrer, "Hubog," won for her a Best Actress trophy in the recently concluded Metro Manila Film Festival), Assunta is bent on launching her singing career in 2002.

Singing voice

In fact, her recording label is only waiting for the sexy star (who also has three regular shows on GMA 7: "Beh, Bote Nga," "Sa Dako Pa Roon" and "Bubble Gang") to finish two more movies and we'll be hearing Assunta's singing voice on the airwaves pretty soon. "*Pero 'wag silang mag*-expect *ng* naughty songs from me," she stresses. "Dance music *na a la* Jennifer Lopez *ang gagawin ko*."

Although Janno, Lani and Assunta feel upbeat about their plans this year, they are nonetheless cognizant of the current gloom and doom.

Filipinos should not lose hope, though, they tell us. "*Marami na ngang nangyayari dito sa atin*," Lani points out. "So if we're going to succumb to another depression, it will definitely just pull us down. We should always remember that there's alway something to look forward to."

Optimistic

"I should always feel optimistic," she adds. "Because I have a family to think of. I can't just give up. *Kung nag-iisip ako ng kalungkutan*, they can also feel that. I always look at the brighter side of life. There's always something good that will happen to us."

Janno, on the other hand, believes that Filipinos are resilient. "*Palagay ko hindi tayo mahihirapan sa mga nangyayari*," he avers. "*Sa lahat ng bansa, tayo 'yung hindi iniinda ang mga problema*. We know how to handle adversities and sufferings. *Pero minsan, 'yun din ang problema natin*, complacent *tayo. Minsan sobra tayo sa 'OK na rin!*'"

Assunta's solution? "We can only pray and believe that we can do it," she offers. "We should also unite. *'Yun ang kulang sa atin*."

SWITCHING CHANNELS

Carlos Agassi says provincial audiences really 'wild'

By Edmund L. Sicam

AGASSI. Wholesome image.

SERVO. Shy and unassuming.

TOP ABS-CBN talent Carlos Agassi has embarked on a nationwide concert tour as the official endorser of Dickies apparel. The tour was launched last week at Hard Rock Cafe. Yesterday, he entertained the youth of Iloilo City at Barracks.

The rest of his schedule follows: Feb. 1, Quorum, Bacolod City; Feb. 2, Hard Rock Cafe, Makati City; Feb. 22, The Venue, Davao City; March 1, El Camino, Dumaguete City; March 2, Ratsky, Cebu.

The rapper has been to the provinces in previous outings and he is quite excited about his out-of-town trips because of the audiences. "They're really wild," says Carlos. "I mean that in a good way. The audiences really let their hair down and that energizes me a lot.

Carlos has parlayed his success as a rapper to get his career going. He's quite visible on television with his soap, "Pangako Sa 'Yo" and on the concert scene as an individual artist, and with his group, The Hunks.

Carlos is the only local talent officially identified with Dickies. Abroad, talents like Madonna, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, N Sync, Hanson and Sugar Ray are fans of the brand.

The TV soap star is a favorite of advertisers who want to target the youth market. A major factor is his wholesome image.

At a recent presscon, Carlos admitted he turned down an offer to do a stage play, "Rocky Horror Show" because it would have required him to go onstage partially nude. "I was flattered by the offer," he says. "I've always wanted to do a stage production but I'm not yet ready for that kind of role."

Yul Servo stars in two telesines

Yul Servo, star of "Batang Westside," has impressed many who watched his movie at the Cinemanila filmfest but his name is largely unfamiliar to local audiences. The Lav Diaz movie will have its regular run in May.

Ironically, Yul has already finished two telesines which could have enlarged his following in a mass medium like television. Unfortunately, his handlers want "Batang Westside" to show in several theaters before his TV dramas are aired. The telesines are also produced by the person behind "Batang Westside."

Yul has already done guestings on other TV dramas but they were all minor roles. The young actor was discovered by director Maryo delos Reyes, who still has to direct him in a movie. Maryo was already set to handle his ward in a motion picture but last minute hitches led to the postponement of the project. The director, however, is set to work with Yul in a forthcoming film.

We found Yul quite shy and unassuming when we talked to him recently. He gave very short answers for many of our questions. With more exposure, Yul should gain the confidence he needs to further his career.

Ricky Davao feels proud to be part of a landmark movie

By Remy M. Umerez

FOR the record, "American Adobo" is the first and only Filipino movie to open simultaneously in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Lino Brocka's "Orapronobis (Fight For Us)" "Bona " and "Macho Dancer" had theatrical exhibition in America but only after their initial release in Manila. The release of "American Adobo " in the US came weeks ahead of its Manila playdate (it opened here on Jan. 16). In charge of the film's worldwide distribution is the independent outfit Outrider Pictures.

Joint venture

"American Adobo" is a joint venture of ABS-CBN Entertainment, Tony Gloria of Unitel Pictures, scriptwriter Vincent "Ting" Nebrida and Kevin Foxe, who was the executive producer of the surprise hit "The Blair Witch Project."

Award-winning director Laurice Guillen megs the film which chronicles the lives of Filipino immigrants in America, with the stories woven over servings of *adobo* during the groups get-togethers.

The movie begins with Tere Sanchez (Cherry Pie Picache) hosting a dinner in her Queens apartment for a special friend visiting from Manila. Invited are their New York City-based friends and former college classmates—Mike Manalastas (Christopher de Leon), a newspaper editor; Marissa Tuazon (Dina Bonnevie) an attractive and vain socialite; Marissa's womanizing cousin Raul Arboleda (Paolo Montalban) and Gerry Payawal (Ricky Davao) a copywriter with an over-protective mother.

Experiences

Ricky shares some of his experiences while filming "American Adobo," which was shot entirely in the United States:

To start with, he feels very privileged to be included in the cast of professionals whom Guillen personally handpicked.

It was two months of serious work and special bonding with co-stars Dina, Christopher, Sandy and US-based Paolo.

Paolo was chosen by People Magazine as one of the 50 Most Beautiful People in 1998. He has appeared in the "Mortal Kombat" TV series where he plays Kung Lao, a young warrior and the reigning champion of the Mortal Kombat Tournament. He performed in the musical movie "Cinderella" as Prince Charming, alongside Brandy who played the title role and Whitney Houston as the Fairy Godmother.

"We worked 12 hours a day and went by the book. We couldn't improvise on the shooting schedule as it would mean paying more in dollars. Once an extra delivers a word there, he gets an additional fee. The only time Laurice got mad was when I failed to deliver my lines because I did not memorize them well.

American crew

"We worked with an American crew, who were amazed at how we could do a heavy scene in just one take. The crew called the director by her first name and Laurice liked that. Our only off day was Sunday, which we spent hearing Mass, doing laundry or shopping.

"Once I went to the laundry and they gave me a funny look because I didn't know how to operate the machine. I wanted to tell them that over here, there are maids who do the washing. I had dinner one time and after paying my bill, the waiter told me it wasn't enough. They strictly observe *pala* the 15 percent service charge," the actor relates.

It was in New York where Ricky became health-conscious. He was strolling when he suddenly felt dizzy and numb. He proceeded to the hospital and had a check-up. The results showed he has high cholesterol. He does workouts three times a week and has followed a strict diet since then. He has been successful in losing 15 pounds thus far.

Illness

Ricky's role in "American Adobo" is that of a closet homosexual dealing with the illness of his lover. This is the third time the actor is portraying a gay role. He was nominated for best actor in "Ang Lalaki sa Buhay ni Selya" but lost to Cesar Montano in "Rizal."

'Amazing Race' brings out the best and the worst in its contestants

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST Saturday, we watched an interesting game show on AXN—"The Amazing Race," in which teams of two people each were sent on a trip around the world, with the tandem who got to the final destination first winning a cool $1 million.

Better than 'Survivor'

Since travel is one of our favorite activities (some friends even refer to us as "Nestor Tourist"), we found this game show better than "Survivor." However, its hectic travel schedules, difficult objectives and high level of stress have definitely dissuaded us from thinking of joining the competition in the future!

Winning a million dollars is great, but all that stress would drastically limit the time left for you to enjoy it!

For some reason, AXN showed *three* episodes of "The Greatest Race" last Saturday, so we were able to get a really good grip on what the competition was all about. From France, the teams went to Tunisia, where they had to perform complex "tasks" before they could get their hands on the clues that would point them to their next destination.

Challenging

Some of the clues were difficult to decipher and the tasks were similarly challenging. In addition, travelling abroad is a dodgy proposition due to factors like unfamiliar language, customs, rules involving money, inaccurate maps and unreliable transport schedules. So, the teams had their work cut out for them just keeping from being left behind by their more aggressive competitors.

Early on, the race revealed itself to be a competition not just between the tandems, but also between each team's two partners themselves. You'd expect them to cooperate with one another, but the stress of the race told on them, and they were soon at each other's throats, complaining, nagging, bringing up old issues, screaming at each other, etc.

Real objective

Thus did it become clear that the game show's *real* objective was to teach partners how to get over their differences so they could truly work as a team and stand a better chance of winning the top prize.

Instructively, most of the tandems did learn that valuable lesson during the competition. As they neared the finish line (at the end of the last episode we viewed, only four pairs were left), they were squabbling less and had finally learned how to work together for a common objective.

Pariah

But one of the pairs became a pariah in the competition because it tried to prevent other pairs from getting on a plane to Rome. The tandem denied doing anything of the sort, but the TV cameras caught them plotting to make the move, and their goose was cooked for the rest of the race.

In the course of the three episodes we viewed, the competing tandems used, not only their brains but also a dizzying range of vehicles to travel all over the world—planes, trains, buses, taxis, motorcycles, bicycles, rickshaws, and even camels! Traveling this way may be exciting and fulfilling for inveterate tourists, and the hefty prize money is a very welcome incentive—but the round-the-world trip is murder on the behind!

Martin performs at the Big Dome Feb. 2

MONTAGE

MARTIN Nievera continues his concert tour, "Martin Nievera XV4ever—The Crossover Adventure Continues" on Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum. The tour kicked off at the Grand Ballroom of the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu last Jan. 19, followed by another performance at the La Salle Coliseum in Bacolod City on Jan. 26. Martin is also scheduled to visit the Freedom Ring Amphitheater at the Expo Filipino in Clark Field, Pampanga on Feb. 9.

For ticket reservations and delivery, call 844-2947 or 844-8159.

Natural in campus tour

Natural, the newest boy band from the same company that launched Backstreet Biys, Nsync, LFO and O-Town, will perform in a series of campus and mall tours on Feb. 5, 6 and 7.

The band's latest hit "Put Your Arms Around Me" is currently enjoying airplay on leading radio stations while its music video can be seen on MTV Philippines. The song has been on the Top Ten list of Billboard's Hot 100 Singles Sales Chart for the past three weeks.

Regine's Valentine concert

Regine Velasquez teams up with Brian McKnight in "Two for the Knight" on Feb. 14 and 15 at the Araneta Coliseum. McKnight is the voice behind international chart toppers "One Last Cry," "You Should Be Mine" and "Back at One." Call 911-5555. (***Compiled by Edmund L. Sicam***)

'Moulin Rouge' wins three Golden Globes

By Anthony Breznican

FORD. Lifetime achievement award.

BEVERLY HILLS, California—"A Beautiful Mind" was named best drama and its star Russell Crowe won the top dramatic actor trophy as the Golden Globes rewarded stories of love under the duress of madness, despair and illness.

"A Beautiful Mind" collected a leading four Globes Sunday night and was followed by triple winner "Moulin Rouge," which was awarded the Globe for best musical or comedy and earned a best actress honor for Nicole Kidman.

Conventional wisdom

If conventional wisdom holds, the Golden Globe recognition will be a boost for the Oscar chances of the two films when the Academy Awards are presented in March.

"A Beautiful Mind" captured the attention of Hollywood Foreign Press Association voters with its dramatization of the true-life story of Nobel prize-winning John Forbes Nash Jr., a schizophrenic math genius who rebuilds his life with the help of his devoted wife.

"I wanted to give a greater understanding to mental illness," said producer Brian Grazer. "And I hope in some way we achieved this."

The film also won for best screenplay for Akiva Goldsman and best supporting dramatic actress, Jennifer Connelly.

Mutual dedication

Although "A Beautiful Mind" omits and fictionalizes elements of the Nashes' lives, the movie was most concerned with dramatizing the mutual dedication of two suffering people, Connelly said.

"I think the essence of their story is really captured in the film," she said. "I think that the Nashes most importantly are happy with it, and that it accurately presents their story."

The hyperactive musical "Moulin Rouge" blended fantasy storytelling techniques and anachronistic pop songs in a tale of forbidden romance. Composer Craig Armstrong won for best original score, even though most of the music in the film was derived from famous pop songs.

Kidman plays a dying cabaret singer wallowing in sadness until a dashing romantic, played by Ewan McGregor, sweeps her off her feet.

"My hands are shaking," Kidman said. "This is really, really special because I never thought I'd be in a musical—let alone win an award for one."

The supporting dramatic actor honor went to Jim Broadbent for playing the husband of novelist Iris Murdoch, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, in "Iris."

Broadbent portrayed writer John Bayley, Murdoch's brilliant but childlike husband, who nursed his dying wife as her once-sharp mind deteriorated.

Scandals

Robert Altman took the directing honor for his murder-mystery satire "Gosford Park," which chronicles the scandals of English aristocrats through the eyes of their servants.

Sissy Spacek was named best dramatic actress for the dark drama "In the Bedroom," about a husband and wife who must reconcile after a family tragedy.

"I feel so blessed to get to do what I love to do and work with so many wonderfully talented people," Spacek said.

Gene Hackman earned the comedy actor Globe for his performance as the conniving head of a family of former child prodigies in "The Royal Tenenbaums."

Bosnia's "No Man's Land" received the foreign language film Globe. Sting was the victor in the movie song category for his romantic waltz "Until . . .," from the comedy "Kate & Leopold."

Absent during this year's telecast were the outrageous antics or remarks that have given the Globes notoriety. It showed that Hollywood is largely maintaining a toned-down attitude since the Sept. 11 attacks.

In the television categories, HBO's "Sex and the City" took best comedy and star Sarah Jessica Parker was cited as best comedic actress. The cable network's funeral home drama "Six Feet Under" was best drama series.

CIA agent

Charlie Sheen got the comedic actor award for ABC's "Spin City."

Kiefer Sutherland's role as a CIA agent in the real-time thriller "24" won a dramatic TV actor trophy, and Jennifer Garner claimed the dramatic TV actress award for playing a sexy spy in ABC's "Alias."

HBO's World War II drama "Band of Brothers" won best miniseries.

Judy Davis received the miniseries actress award for ABC's "Life With Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" and James Franco the miniseries actor prize for TNT's "James Dean."

Harrison Ford, star of the "Indiana Jones" adventures and the original "Star Wars" trilogy, took home the Cecil B. DeMille lifetime achievement award. ***AP***

Year 2001 claims some entertainment greats

By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES—Form the "quiet Beatle" and the "boogie king" of music fame to screen legends such as Hollywood's Oscar-winning everyman and Roy Rogers' "Queen of the West," the year 2001 claimed the lives of some of the world's greatest entertainers.

George Harrison, the retiring lead guitarist of the Fab Four who gave the world "Something" and "Here Comes the Sun," joined pioneering blues guitarist John Lee Hooker, two time Oscar winner Jack Lemmon and singing cowgirl Dale Evans among the ranks of show biz luminaries whose deaths dimmed the dawn of the millennium.

Farewell

Hollywood bid farewell to such greats as Academy Award winner Anthony Quinn, best known for his title role in "Zorba the Greek," television actor Carroll O'Connor, acclaimed for playing the lovable bigot Archie Bunker on "All in the Family," and director-choreographer Herbert Ross, the man behind the camera for "The Goodbye Girl" and "The Sunshine Boys."

The year also marked the passing of one-time matinee idol Troy Donahue, veteran television comic Imogene Coca and canny character actor Ray Walston, who starred on stage and screen as the devil in "Damn Yankees" and gained TV fame playing the extraterrestrial Uncle Martin on "My Favorite Martian."

Performing legends

Besides Harrison and Hooker, the music industry lost more than its share of performing legends, among them violin virtuoso Isaac Stern, country guitarist Chet Atkins, laid-back crooner Perry Como, R&B vocalist Aaliyah, punk rock pioneer Joey Ramone, Big Band leader Les Brown, jazz saxophonist Joe Henderson and John Phillips of the Mamas and the Papas.

Two of popular music's most prolific songwriters also reached their final measure—lyricist Kal Mann, who co-wrote hits for Chubby Checker, Elvis Presley and Bobby Rydell, and Oscar-winning composer Jay Livingston, who helped pen such hits as "Que Sera Sera" and "Silver Bells."

Several leading ladies took their final bows, among them onscreen matriarch Dorothy McGuire, film noir temptress Jane Greer, streetsmart showgirl Ann Sothern and Broadway and film actress Kim Stanley.

The following is a list of some of the entertainment figures who died during the past 12 months, in the order of their passing.

Ray Walston, 86. Jan. 1. Tony and Emmy award-winning actor whose best-known roles include the devil in "Damn Yankees," the cranky Uncle Martin of "My Favorite Martian" and the judge on TV series "Picket Fences."

QUINN. Zest for life.

Les Brown, 88. Jan. 4 Musician and orchestra leader who made his Band of Renown a mainstay of Bob Hope's act for decades and turned "Sentimental Journey" into a No. 1 hit and standard in the American repertoire.

Cowboy films

Dale Evans, 88. Feb. 7. Actress-singer who became "Queen of the West" by starring with husband Roy Rogers in 27 cowboy films and writing their theme song, "Happy Trails."

Ann Sothern, 92. March 15. Actress who starred as the saucy, liberated showgirl in MGM's "Masie" movies during the 1940s and played single working women on TV in "Private Secretary" and "The Ann Southern Show."

John Phillips, 65. March 18. Singer-songwriter who founded the 1960s pop act the Mamas the Papas.

William Hanna, 90. March 22. Animator who co-founded with Joseph Barbera the studio that created such TV cartoon favorites as Yogi Bear and the Flintstones.

Billy Mitchell, 74, April 18. Saxophonist, played with jazz greats Count Basie, Dizzy Gillespie and Woody Herman.

Perry Como, 88. May 12. Singer whose relaxed vocal style endured through six decades with such easy-listening ballads as "Catch A Falling Star" and "It's Impossible."

Imogene Coca, 92. June 2. TV comedian best remembered as Sid Caesar's better half on "Your Show of Shows" in the 1950s.

Anthony Quinn, 86. June 3. Two-time Oscar winner known for his portrayal of earthy characters with a zest for life, most notably the worldly wise peasant in "Zorba the Greek."

Blues guitarist

John Lee Hooker, 83, June 21. Superstar blues guitarist dubbed "The King of the Boogie," helped turned the roots music of the Mississippi Delta into one of the most influential genres of popular music.

Carrol O'Connor, 76. June 21. Emmy-winning actor who changed the face of television through his portrayal of lovable bigot Archie Bunker on the landmark show "All in the Family."

Jack Lemmon, 76. June 27. Two-time Oscar-winning actor whose roles ranged from brash and befuddled young men to grumpy old

YEAR/ p.D7

Sweet Nothings

This Valentine season, let the world know how much that special someone means to you by writing that heartfelt love note in the widest read and circulated broadsheet in the country.

On February 14, **INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS** will publish personal ads dedicated especially to those you hold dearest to your heart at a discounted rate of **P50** per line or **P180** per column centimeter.

For more information, visit or call any **INQUIRER** branch. Prices are VAT exclusive.

SAMPLE ADS

Iane,
There is a love that only you could give, a smile that only your face can show, a twinkle that can be seen only in your eyes and a life of mine that only you can fulfill.
I LOVE YOU!
always,
Red

size: 1 col x 4 cm
cost: P720 VAT exclusive

Happy Heart's Day Liz! You're God's greatest blessing – Tim

size: 3 lines
cost: P150 VAT exclusive

I love you Regin! Loving you is one of the best things I've ever done in my life. Happy Valentine's Day! – Mikaela

size: 4 lines
cost: P200 VAT exclusive

MAKATI (MAIN):
PASONG TAMO AVE., COR. YAGUE & MASCARDO STS. MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8808 loc. 514, 516
☎ 8972535 (Direct)
📠 897-4808
main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MAKATI BRANCH:
G/F ATRIUM OF MAKATI, MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY
☎ 811-4370, 817-4361
📠 897-5578
makati_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

QUEZON CITY:
ST ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., Q.C.
☎ 912-9008 to 10
📠 912-0011
cubao_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

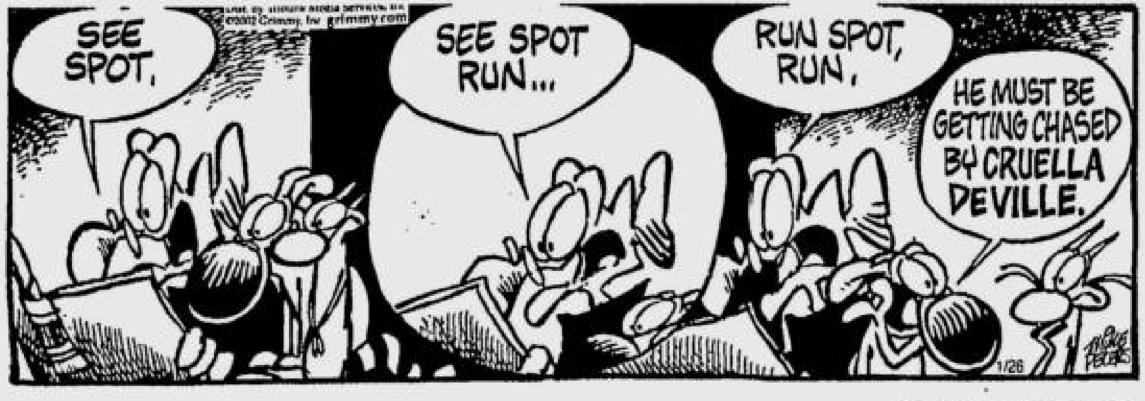
MANILA:
G/F TRINITY BLDG., T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 527-3342, 528-0183, 528-0180
📠 528-0234
intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

MANDALUYONG:
SM MEGAMALL, 5TH LEVEL BUILDING B, EDSA
☎ 635-0219, 637-2008
📠 635-0220
sm_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

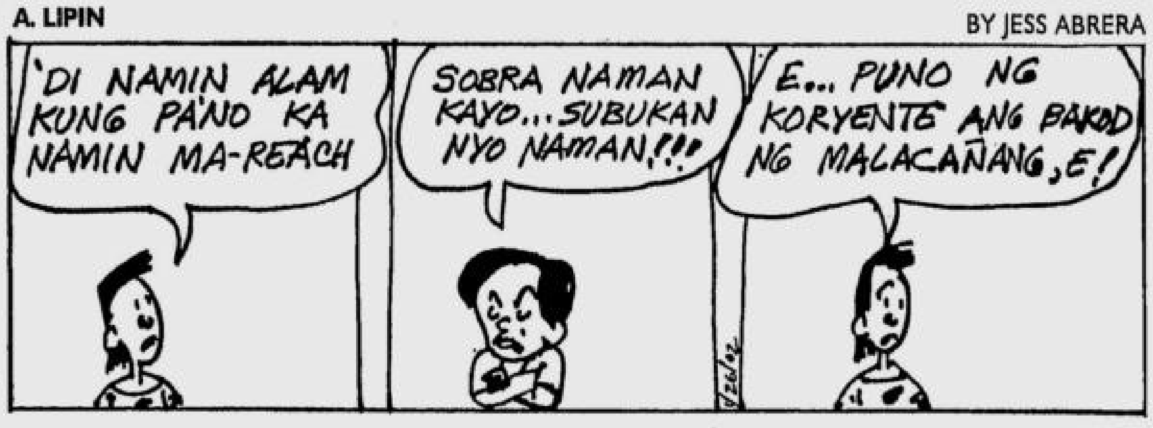
ALABANG:
ALABANG DESKTOP EXPRESS
MAKATI SUPERMART-ALABANG
ALABANG TOWNCENTER
MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 650-0465

COTTON USA
MOVING spirits
get focused
Chris De Lima, Champion Archer
Moving Spirits Teen Winner
get swinging
Jude Eustaquio, Champion International Junior Golfer
Moving Spirits Teen Winner
get a kick
Miggy Yam, Outstanding Soccer Player
Moving Spirits Tyke Winner
In cooperation with:
BREEZE
CLOSE-UP
moving
For freedom of movement and expression, nothing can be as cool as cotton.
That's the spirit.

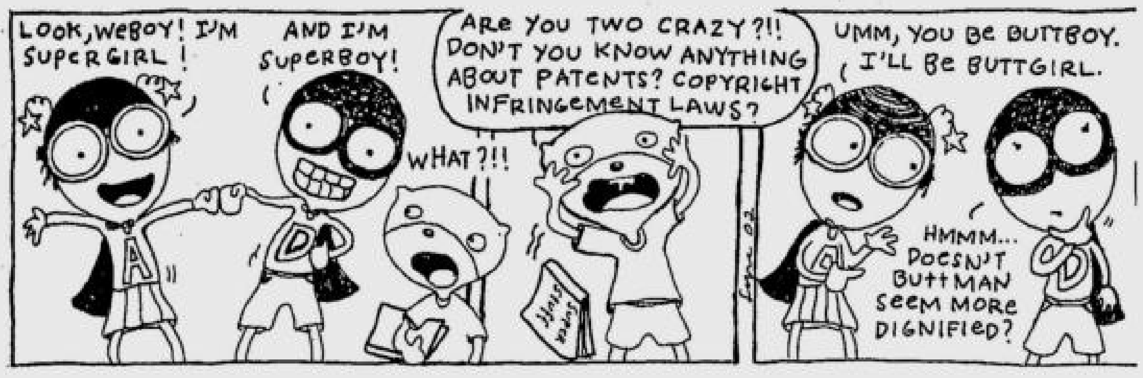
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS


SEE SPOT.
SEE SPOT RUN...
RUN SPOT, RUN.
HE MUST BE GETTING CHASED BY CRUELLA DEVILLE.
1/26

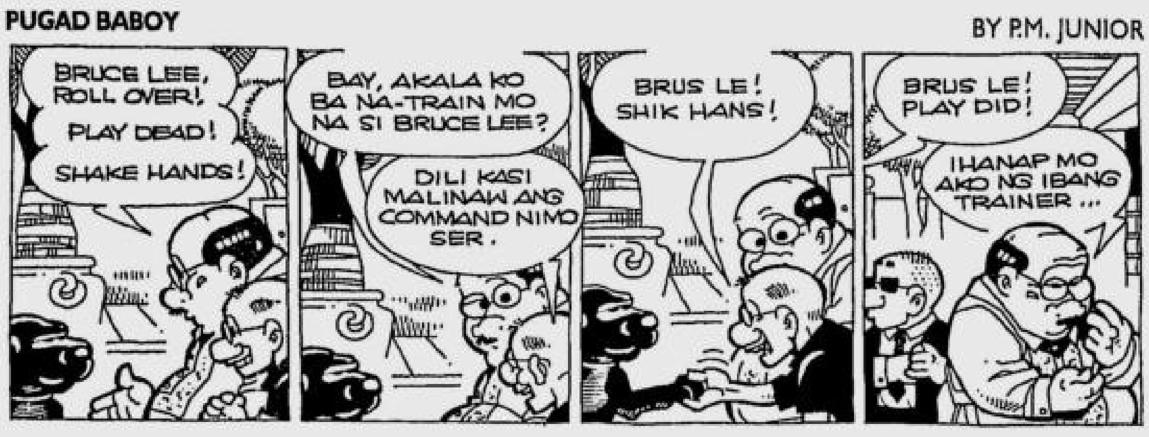
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


'DI NAMIN ALAM KUNG PA'NO KA NAMIN MA-REACH
SOBRA NAMAN KAYO... SUBUKAN NYO NAMAN!!!
E... PUNO NG KORYENTE ANG BAKOD NG MALACAÑANG, E!

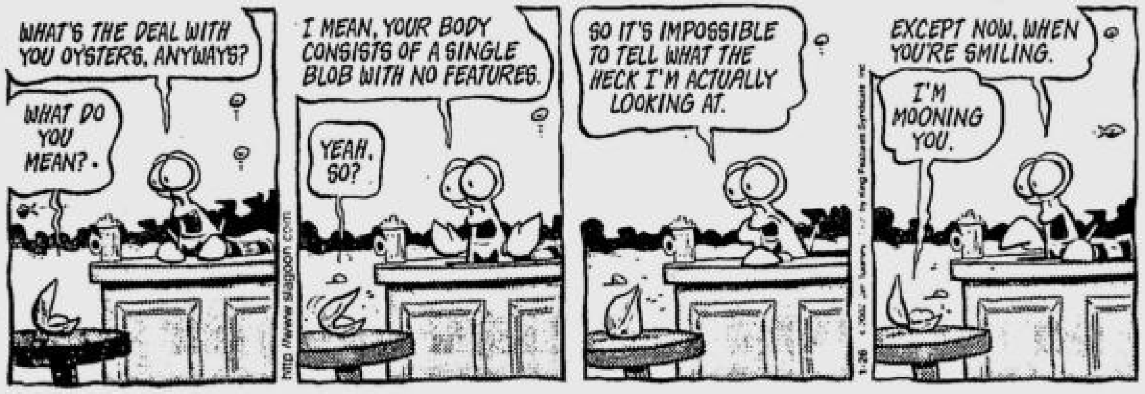
ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


LOOK, WEBOY! I'M SUPERGIRL!
AND I'M SUPERBOY!
WHAT?!!
ARE YOU TWO CRAZY?!! DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT PATENTS? COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT LAWS?
UMM, YOU BE BUTTBOY. I'LL BE BUTTGIRL.
HMMM... DOESN'T BUTTMAN SEEM MORE DIGNIFIED?

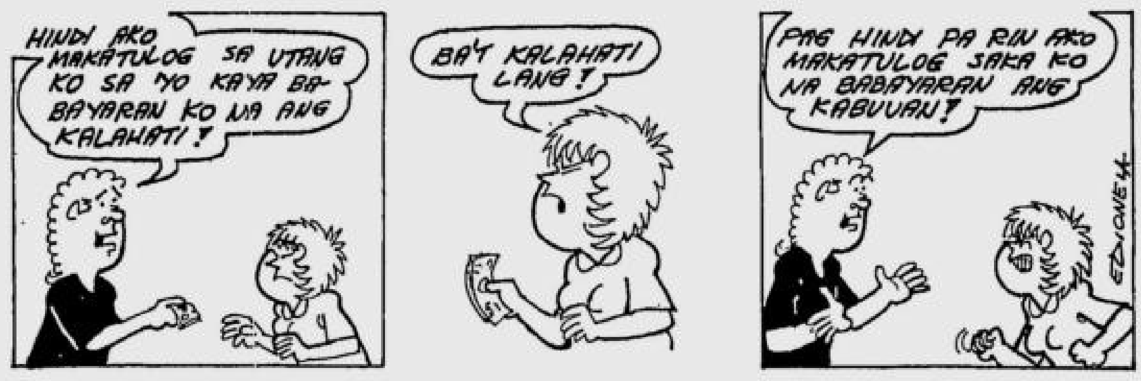
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


BRUCE LEE, ROLL OVER!
PLAY DEAD!
SHAKE HANDS!
BAY, AKALA KO BA NA-TRAIN MO NA SI BRUCE LEE?
DILI KASI MALINAW ANG COMMAND NIMO SER.
BRUS LE! SHIK HANS!
BRUS LE! PLAY DID!
IHANAP MO AKO NG IBANG TRAINER...

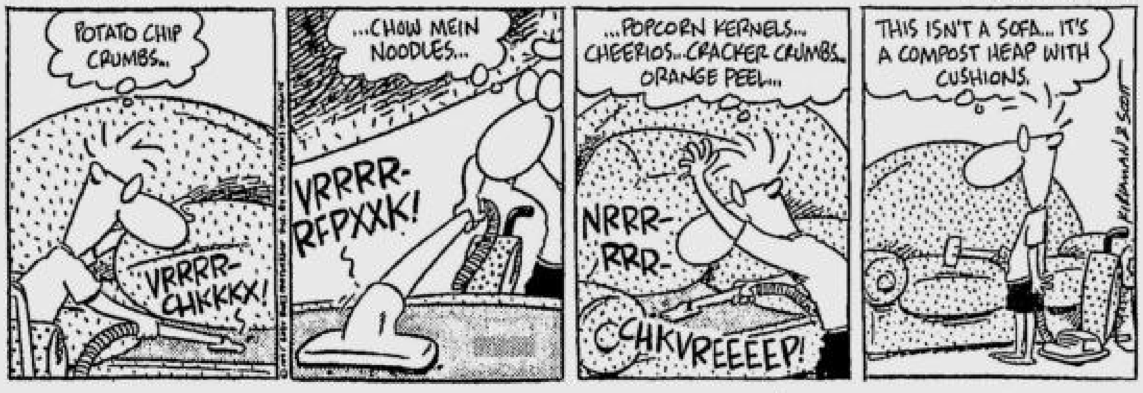
SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY


WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH YOU OYSTERS, ANYWAYS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I MEAN, YOUR BODY CONSISTS OF A SINGLE BLOB WITH NO FEATURES.
YEAH, SO?
SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHAT THE HECK I'M ACTUALLY LOOKING AT.
EXCEPT NOW, WHEN YOU'RE SMILING.
I'M MOONING YOU.
http://www.slagoon.com

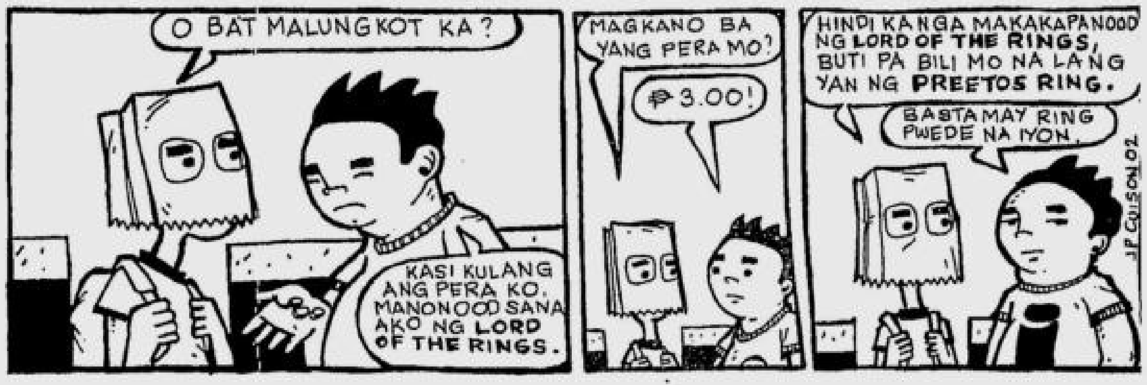
SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA


HINDI AKO MAKATULOG SA UTANG KO SA 'YO KAYA BABAYARAN KO NA ANG KALAHATI!
BA'T KALAHATI LANG!
PAG HINDI PA RIN AKO MAKATULOG SAKA KO NA BABAYARAN ANG KABUUAN!
EDIONELA

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


POTATO CHIP CRUMBS...
VRRRR-CHKKKX!
...CHOW MEIN NOODLES...
VRRRR-RFPXXK!
...POPCORN KERNELS... CHEERIOS... CRACKER CRUMBS... ORANGE PEEL...
NRRR-RRR-
CCHKVREEEEP!
THIS ISN'T A SOFA... IT'S A COMPOST HEAP WITH CUSHIONS.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

GARAPATA BLOOD BY JOHN PAUL CUISON


O BAT MALUNGKOT KA?
KASI KULANG ANG PERA KO. MANONOOD SANA AKO NG LORD OF THE RINGS.
MAGKANO BA YANG PERA MO?
₱3.00!
HINDI KA NGA MAKAKAPANOOD NG LORD OF THE RINGS, BUTI PA BILI MO NA LANG YAN NG PREETOS RING.
BASTA MAY RING PWEDE NA IYON.
JP CUISON 02

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Wayne Gretzky, Paul Newman, Jules Feiffer

Happy Birthday: The year ahead will be one of decision and change. You will have to choose between what others want for you and what you want for yourself. Your numbers are 6, 19, 23, 31, 40, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can expect others to create emotional frustrations for you. Try to rise above these antics and do what you know in your heart is necessary.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You need to plan your day so that you can visit with friends or relatives who always give you a lift. You will have lots to offer others and will get plenty in return.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you can rid yourself of the things that appear to be working against you nothing will stand in your way. You can make headway as long as you are strong and determined.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be able to tell others exactly how you feel today, however this may not be to your advantage. Put your time and energy into accomplishment not talk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Something may be going on behind your back but it doesn't appear to be nasty. Don't pry; someone may be trying to plan a surprise for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can be in the limelight if you attend fund-raising events. Your ability to organize and pull events together will be appreciated by onlookers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It is best to go about your own business today and let others do the same. Disagreements are likely to erupt today with someone who is just as opinionated as you are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your involvement in groups of a philosophic nature will play a big role in your life today. You will feel physically charged if you do something invigorating.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be taking a chance if you decide you want to put your money into a risky venture. You will be inclined to pay way too much for something you just have to buy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you are in a relationship you may experience some emotional difficulties. If you aren't in a relationship you should jump at the chance to meet someone who could become a potential life partner.

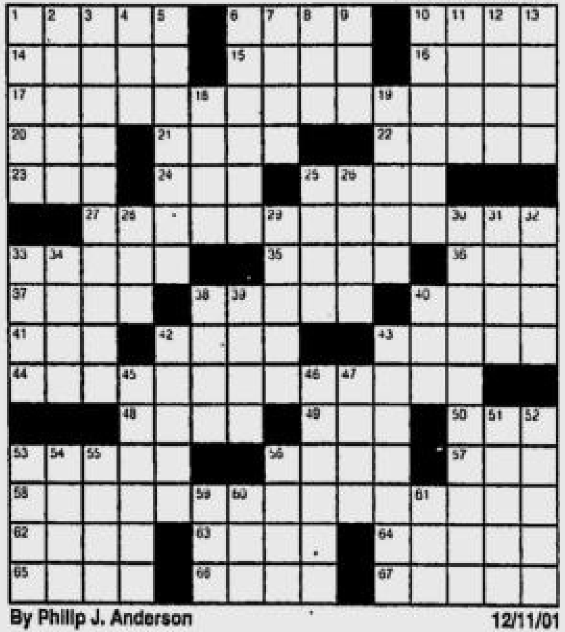
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It may not be a workday but you should consider doing something that is work related. Consider getting together socially with some of your colleagues.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You shouldn't sit at home today thinking about all the things you'd like to do. You will be entertaining, creative and imaginative so plan a great day for you and your closest friend.

Birthday Baby: You will have high ethical values. You will be easygoing and get along well with almost everyone. You will be popular because of your ability to help those around you.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

12/11/01

ACROSS

1 Russian villa
6 Olden days
10 Lena of "Havana"
14 Egg-shaped
15 "O don fatale" or "Vissi d'arte"
16 Dunce-cap shape
17 Brass
20 First name of a canine star?
21 Planters
22 "Waste Land" poet
23 Frazier's foe, often
24 Scull propeller
25 Continental prefix
27 Brass
33 Take the plunge?
35 Sheep fat
36 At this moment
37 Yard-sale warning
38 French military caps
40 Not working
41 Ike's arena
42 Nobel-winner Morrison
43 Hold the tiller
44 Brass
48 Kisses' partner?
49 FDR group
50 Pugilists' grp.
53 Embellish
56 Tracks to NYC
57 Made tracks
58 Brass
62 Work units
63 Cold-cut palace
64 Lauder of cosmetics
65 Fastidious
66 Mimics
67 Nifty!

DOWN

1 Portuguese currency unit
2 Be of use to
3 Fit of anger
4 Put out of the way
5 Fatty
6 Crust dough
7 Well-practiced skills
8 Military address
9 Greek letter
10 Spotted wildcat
11 Anderson of "WKRP..."
12 Fascinated by
13 Hatchlings' home
18 Genesis man
19 Be worthy of
25 Needle case
26 Shoshone tribe members
28 Sounds of uncertainty
29 Meat jelly
30 Guarantee against failure
31 1996 loser
32 Water pitcher
33 Humanitas founder Joan
34 __ Spumante
38 Donkey or King follower
39 Remnants
40 Follower: suffix
42 Mocking reproach
43 Sprinkles
45 "__ Stopped at Eboli"
46 Pygmy antelopes
47 Persian fairy
51 Breakfast ring
52 Photographer Adams
53 Grace closing
54 Ominous
55 Russian saint
56 Singer Lovett
59 Nabokov book
60 GOP member
61 Compass dir.

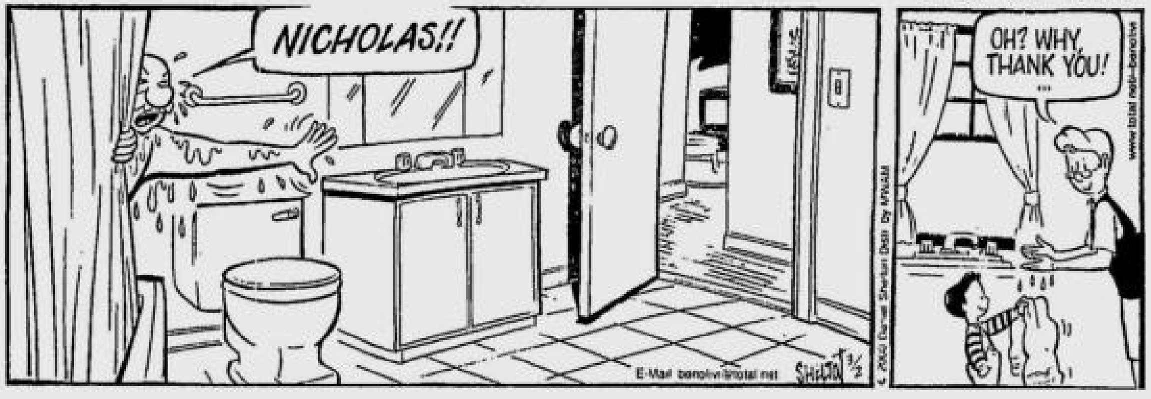
PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	W	A	G	■	H	A	G	A	R	■	F	A	D	S
P	A	N	E	■	A	B	I	D	E	■	U	T	A	H
I	N	T	E	R	M	E	Z	Z	O	■	Z	O	N	E
N	E	E	■	E	L	L	A	■	R	A	Z	Z	E	D
■	■	■	■	H	I	E	■	I	D	L	Y	■	■	■
H	A	P	P	E	N	■	S	T	A	L	W	A	R	T
O	P	I	U	M	■	C	C	C	I	■	U	B	E	R
B	E	N	Z	■	S	H	A	H	N	■	Z	U	N	I
B	A	E	Z	■	C	A	R	Y	■	A	Z	T	E	C
S	K	Y	L	A	R	K	S	■	E	L	Y	S	E	E
■	■	■	■	E	L	E	A	■	M	I	L	■	■	■
A	N	E	M	I	A	■	C	A	L	E	■	B	A	S
D	A	T	E	■	M	I	Z	Z	E	N	M	A	S	T
A	T	T	N	■	E	V	A	D	E	■	A	R	I	A
M	O	A	T	■	R	E	R	A	N	■	D	E	A	R

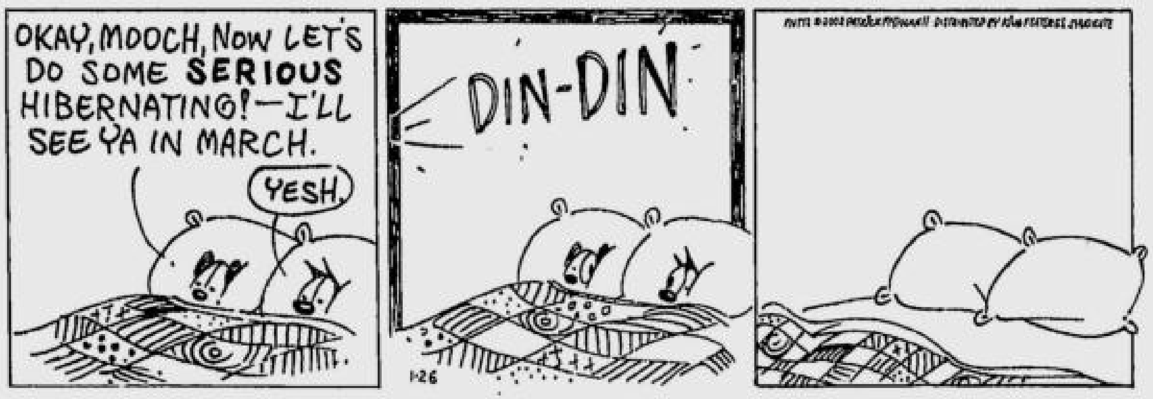
(C)2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

12/11/01

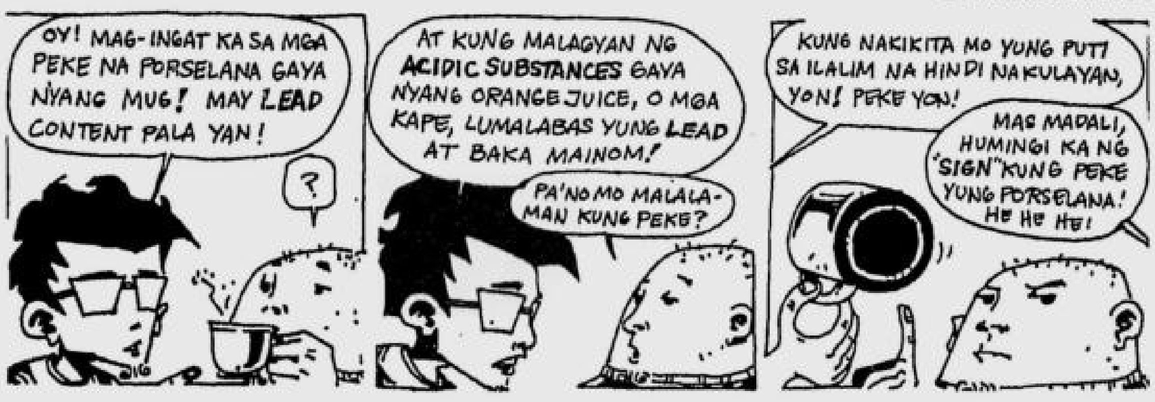
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


NICHOLAS!!
OH? WHY, THANK YOU!
E-Mail: benshelton@total.net
SHELTON

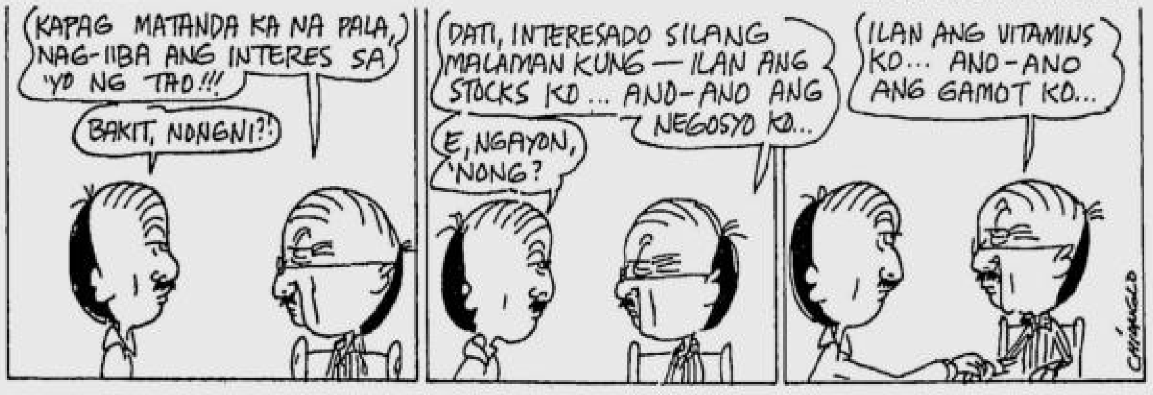
MUTTS BY PATRICK MCDONNELL


OKAY, MOOCH, NOW LET'S DO SOME SERIOUS HIBERNATING! — I'LL SEE YA IN MARCH.
YESH.
DIN-DIN
1-26

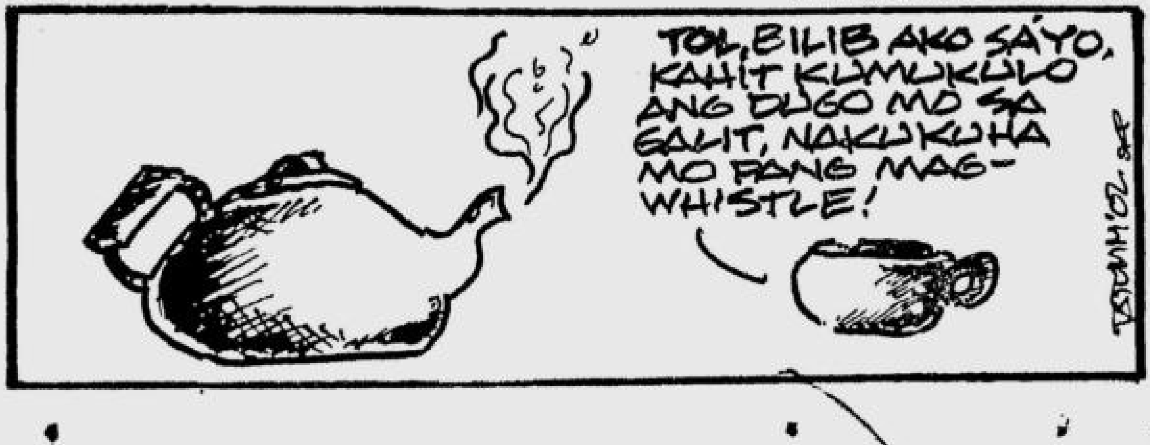
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


OY! MAG-INGAT KA SA MGA PEKE NA PORSELANA GAYA NYANG MUG! MAY LEAD CONTENT PALA YAN!
?
AT KUNG MALAGYAN NG ACIDIC SUBSTANCES GAYA NYANG ORANGE JUICE, O MGA KAPE, LUMALABAS YUNG LEAD AT BAKA MAINOM!
PA'NO MO MALALAMAN KUNG PEKE?
KUNG NAKIKITA MO YUNG PUTI SA ILALIM NA HINDI NAKULAYAN, YON! PEKE YON!
MAS MADALI, HUMINGI KA NG "SIGN" KUNG PEKE YUNG PORSELANA! HE HE HE!

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


KAPAG MATANDA KA NA PALA, NAG-IIBA ANG INTERES SA 'YO NG TAO!!!
BAKIT, NONGNI?!
DATI, INTERESADO SILANG MALAMAN KUNG — ILAN ANG STOCKS KO... ANO-ANO ANG NEGOSYO KO...
E, NGAYON, 'NONG?
ILAN ANG VITAMINS KO... ANO-ANO ANG GAMOT KO...
CHIONGLO

TULDOK BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


TOL, BILIB AKO SA'YO, KAHIT KUMUKULO ANG DUGO MO SA GALIT, NAKUKUHA MO PANG MAG-WHISTLE!

Directors Guild imports nominees for top honor

LOS ANGELES—The Directors Guild of America imported most nominees from overseas for its top filmmaking honors on Tuesday.

"A Beautiful Mind" filmmaker Ron Howard was the only American picked for the competition.

The other nominees: New Zealand director Peter Jackson for "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring," Australian Baz Luhrmann for "Moulin Rouge" and British-born filmmakers Christopher Nolan for "Memento" and Ridley Scott for "Black Hawk Down."

Notably absent

Notably absent from the list was Robert Altman, an American, who won the Golden Globe Sunday for his direction of "Gosford Park."

The DGA snub could mean he has little chance of an Academy Award win if nominated this year because the Oscar is also determined by peers in the directing community.

In the 54 years since the guild began distributing its award, the winner has gone on to win the best director Oscar all but five times. Last year was one of those times: the guild picked Ang Lee for "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" while the Oscar went to Steven Soderbergh for "Traffic."

The winner will be announced at a March 9 ceremony. *AP*

CHINESE director Ang Lee announces the nominees for the 2001 DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film. AP

Really Long Hair!

Tired of your thin short hair?
Well, fret no more because Bergmann is here. You can have your dream hair that's long and full - like a lion's mane. The **BELLARGO** system will make it come true. This is the latest state of the art hair extension system from Europe. Made of unprocessed European hair strands, these will be attached without using any chemicals, glues, wax or metals. Ultralightweight, the strands remain attached to your hair for approximately 12 weeks, afterwhich, these can be reattached and even colored. The **BELLARGO** system is guaranteed for 12 months. What are you waiting for?
Call us now at 807-2627 or 807-2311

BERGMANN
HAIR systems
20th Floor • Richville Corporate Tower • Commerce Avenue Extension
Madrigal Business Park • Ayala Alabang • Muntinlupa City
e-mail: bergmann@access.net.ph • www.bergmann.de•www.volu-med.com

'Proof' affirms Lea's thespic limitations

By Nestor U. Torre

OUR busy schedule keeps us from catching most live performances we're invited to, but we made it a point to see Lea Salonga in the stage play, "Proof," at the GSIS Theater. We've known Lea to be a great singer but so-so actress since way back, so we were interested to see if she had improved in the acting department.

Sad to say, she didn't come up to the thespic requirements of the complex character she was playing. The playscript suggested that here was a brilliant, many-layered, occasionally even contradictory character, but Lea pretty much played her uncomplicated and cool.

As a result, the production failed to come up to the thematic and emotional level of achievement for which the script is justly famous abroad, and the local audience's attention wandered.

To be fair, some people may see Lea's coolness as a plus point, calling it subtle "underplaying," and all that. But there's a world of difference between clamping down on emotions that are there and bottling them up to achieve seething tension, and the insufficiency of passion and complexity that Lea betrayed in her performance.

Of course, this is not exclusively Lea's fault. She was not helped by the production to rise to the required level of thespic involvement, commitment and insight into her character. A survey of some of Lea's past performances would have signaled the need for this additional support.

Triumph

Her performance in "Miss Saigon" was a triumph largely because of her strong, beautiful singing voice and musicality. In London, when the musical started its run, the common view was that Lea was the better singer, and Monique Wilson the better actress.

In her movie with Aga Muhlach, Lea looked skittish and strained beside her more natural and relaxed leading man. In the US TV movie in which she played an adopted Asian piano virtuoso, Lea came up with a relatively morose portrayal.

In the light of these early warning signs, one wondered why Lea daringly decide to go "all-acting" in "Proof." On the one hand, we admired her for deciding to take that risk, to put her heretofore safe and unremarkable thespic gift on the line, to announce the arrival of a new, more mature and more daring Lea. On the other hand, the possibility of failure was high, so she should have been helped more to raise her slim chances of success.

Well, Lea's experiment isn't panning out, so the next time she decides to go "all-drama," she should rely on more than just daring, confidence and cool.

Relatively uninformed

In fact, that blithe coolness is one of her problems as an actress—it keeps her from getting under the skin of her character, not to mention her own. Consequently, her performances tend to be superficial and relatively uniformed by pain, confusion and contradiction on the one hand, and overpowering joy and passion on the other.

Well, all is not lost. On Jan. 31 and Feb 1, Lea is going back to what she does best, singing, in a concert of Broadway songs at the PICC. Expect her beautiful, bell-like voice to reign supreme, and to raise her audience's hearts and hopes, something that her relatively limited acting capabilities fail to do.

Lea, the singer, is unparalleled. Lea, the actress, needs more work—namely, greater commitment, involvement, willingness to let her heart hang on a thespic limb, and to pursue her character, through whatever interstices, to its logical *and* illogical conclusions.

Year 2001

(From page D5)

ones, he formed one of cinema's great odd couples with late partner Walter Matthau.

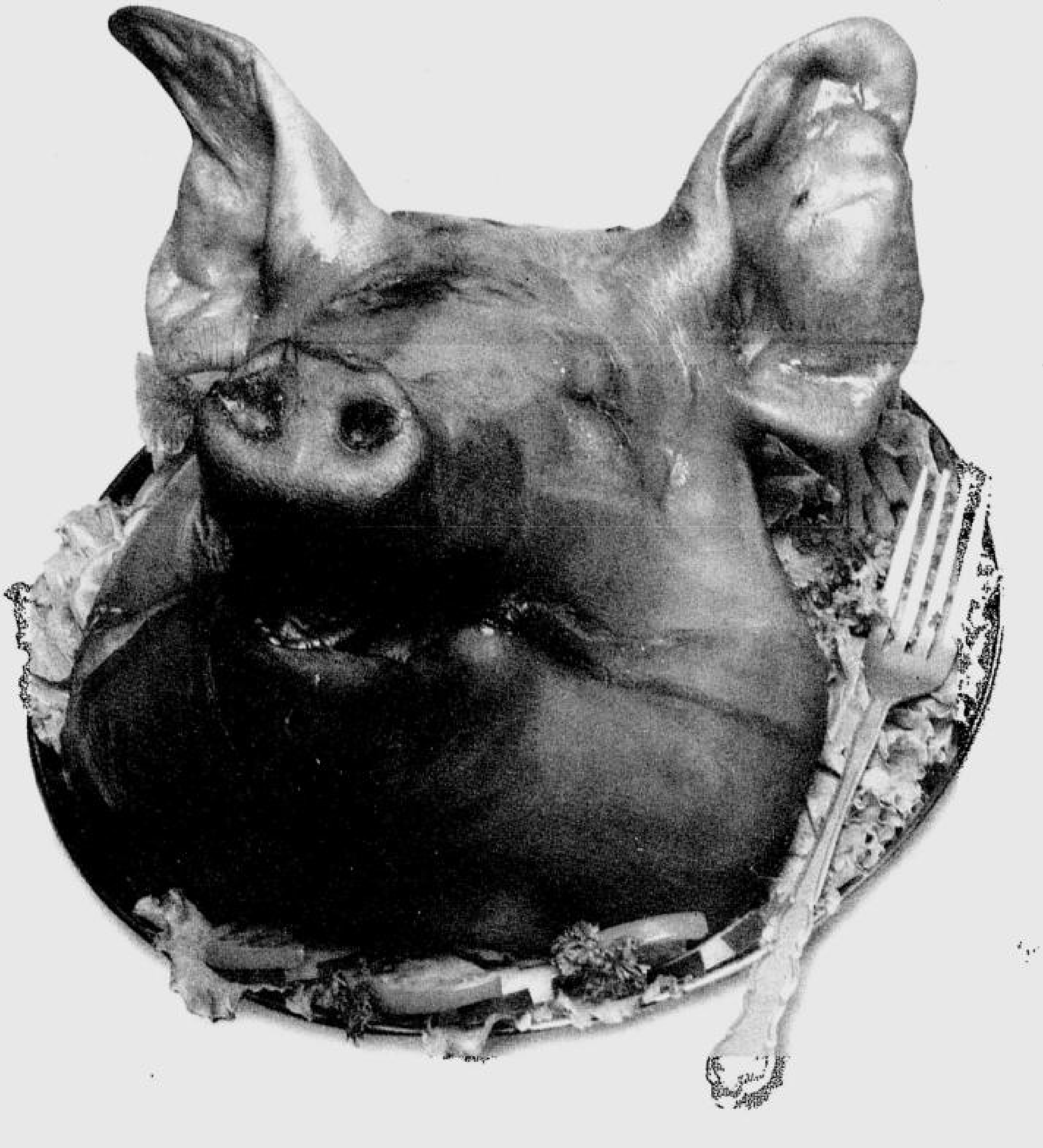
Chet Atkins, 77. June 30. Influential guitarist who helped modernize country music in the 1960s and played with stars ranging from Hank Williams to Elvis Presley.

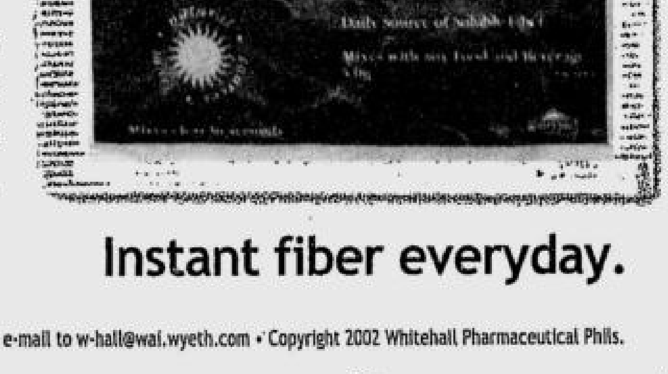
Kim Stanley, 76. Aug. 20. Stage, film and TV actress who starred in Broadway's "Bus Stop" and "Picnic" and earned Oscar nominations for "Seance on a Wet Afternoon" and "Frances.".

Jane Greer, 76. Aug. 24. Film noir actress who overcame facial paralysis from Bell's palsy as a teenager and went on to enchant some of Hollywood's biggest names on screen and off.

Aaliyah, 22. Aug. 25. R&B singer and budding actress who made her film debut in "Romeo Must Die" and was killed in a plane crash in the Bahamas.

George Harrison, 58. Nov. 29. Lead guitarist and youngest of the Beatles whose fascination with Hindu spirituality and music flavored the Fab Four's recordings. *Reuters*





Sin

Salvation

It's a sin to have high blood cholesterol because it may lead to hypertension and heart disease. Take care of your health. Eat a proper diet, exercise regularly and take Fibrosine. Fibrosine contains 100% natural fiber which may help lower cholesterol levels. Fibrosine mixes well with your morning drink or water without affecting taste. Salvation is never easy, but with the help of Fibrosine, it isn't too far away.

Instant fiber everyday.

WHITEHALL For further information, please write to Whitehall Pharmaceutical Phils., 2236 Chino Roces Ave Makati City or e-mail to w-hall@wai.wyeth.com • Copyright 2002 Whitehall Pharmaceutical Phils.

Hala Bira! ng Bira! ng Bira! ng Bira!

ARANETA CENTER
Fiesta Islands
YEAR 2002

ENEROFEST!

Jan. 26 - 27, 2002

HALA!
ATI-ATIHAN PARADA!
20 TRIBU PWEDE KANG MAKISAYA!
Saturday, Jan. 26, 1 pm to 6 pm
Centerwide Parade

HALA!
KAINAN NA!
WALANG KATAPUSANG LITSONG MANOK, BABOY AT BAKA! SANGKATUTAK NA BILIHIN DIN SA MGA SOUVENIR SHOPS!
Saturday, Jan. 26, 11 am to 8 pm, Coliseum Circle
Araneta Coliseum Green Gate

HALA!
MGA BANDA!
Featuring ALAMID, RIGHTEOUS ACT, CHILLWORX
Saturday, Jan. 26, 6 pm onwards
Coliseum Circle
Araneta Coliseum Green Gate

HALA!
STREET PARTY at FIREWORKS na,
babaha pa ng serbesa!
Jan. 26, 8 pm onwards • Coliseum Circle
Araneta Coliseum

HALA!
Sto. NIÑO
PRUSISYON NA!
Sunday, Jan. 27, 7 pm

HALA!
WOW PHILIPPINES GRAND FIESTA SALE
January 15 - 31, 2002
Centerwide

San Miguel BEER

COLISEUM CIRCLE
GREAT FOOD. GREAT FUN. IN ONE BIG CIRCLE.

Tara na sa Araneta!
ARANETA CENTER
www.aranetacenter.net

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE CONVENTION & VISITORS CORPORATION

* Food and refreshments will be sold at kiosks in the fiesta area.

FREE PIZZA WITH YOUR PALM CARD!

Good news for pizza lovers! Get your Pizza Hut PALM Card for only ₱150 and enjoy a free Hawaiian Pan Pizza of the same size everytime you order a pizza and Pepsi for the next six months! Save as much as ₱299! This promo is good for take out and delivery. Offer is valid for all pizzas ordered except Deluxe Cheese and Pizza Mia. For delivery, Pepsi purchase should be a liter. Hurry, cards are available only until July 31, 2002.

PALM CARD
Pizza And Lots More
Pizza Hut

PEPSI
Pizza Hut
911-11-11

Per DTI NCR Permit No. 4254 series of 2001

Ako rin.
Ako rin!

Junior
INQUIRER
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2002 ◆ 12 PAGES ◆ VOLUME 6, NUMBER 17
WWW.INQ7.NET

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Elephant Tutors Page 3
- Your Poetry Page 6
- Miriam's Straight Shooter Page 8
- The Lunch Box Page 12

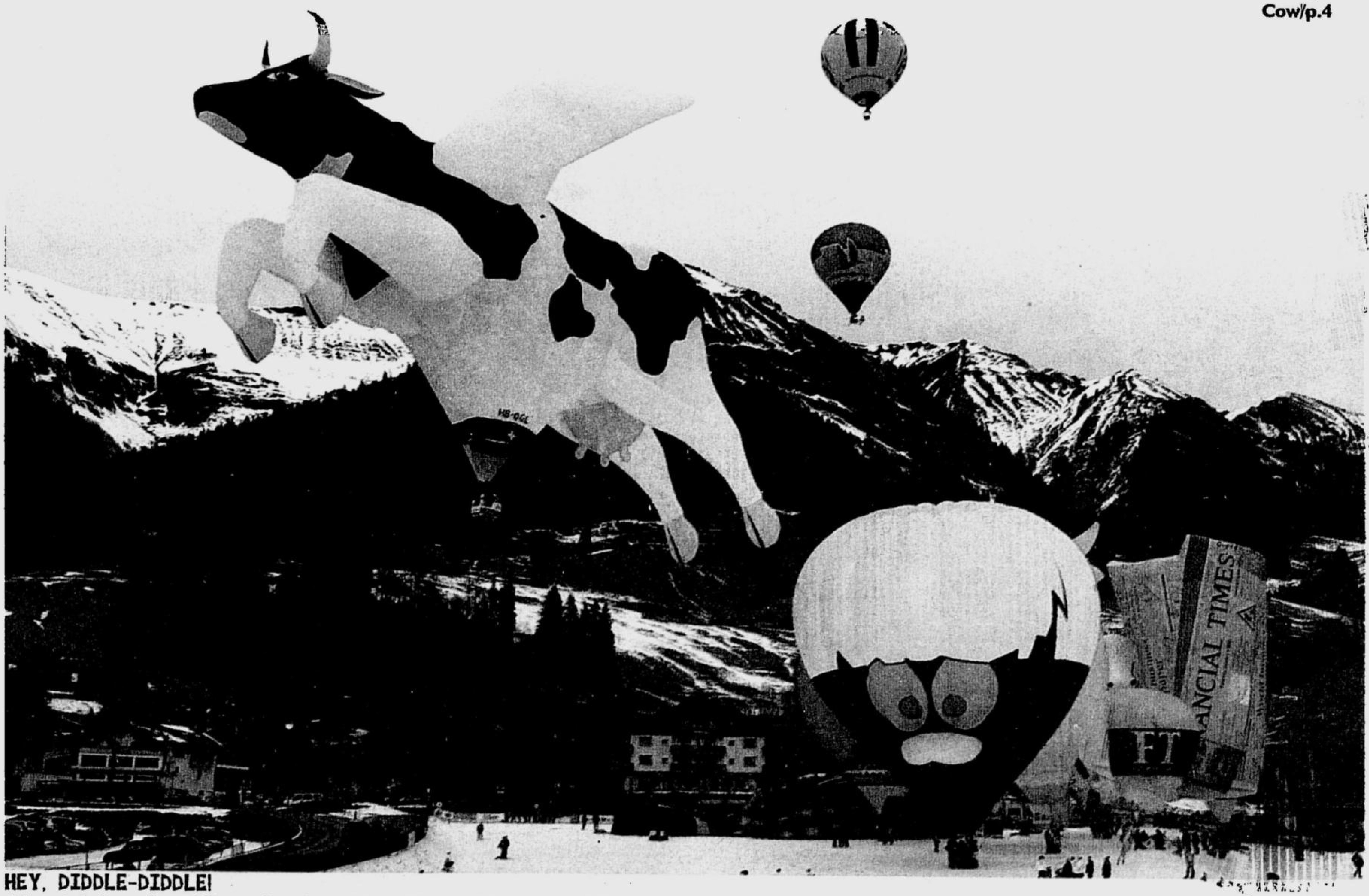
Cow in my Eye

100 balloons take to the Swiss Alps sky

IT was a great time to have a stiff neck at the Swiss Alps last week. Serious skiers, winter tourists and media people oogled once more at the participating entries to the annual Chateau d'Oex International Hot Air Balloon week.

This year, the most prestigious and popular hot air balloon festival in Europe featured more than 100 balloons from 19

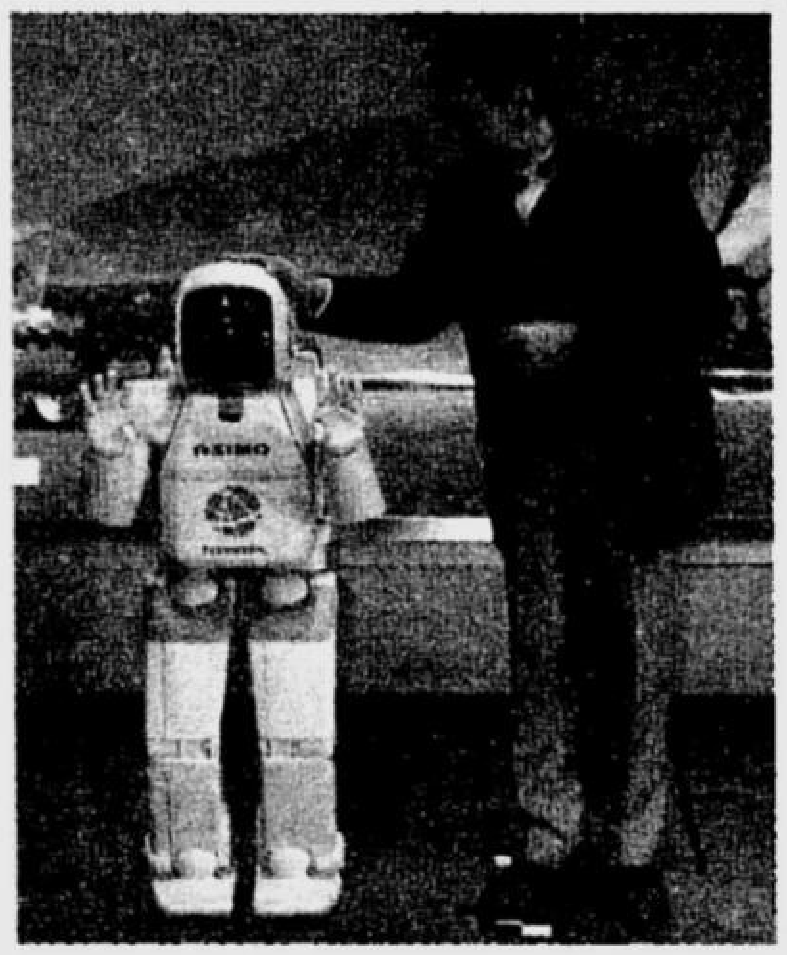
Cow/p.4



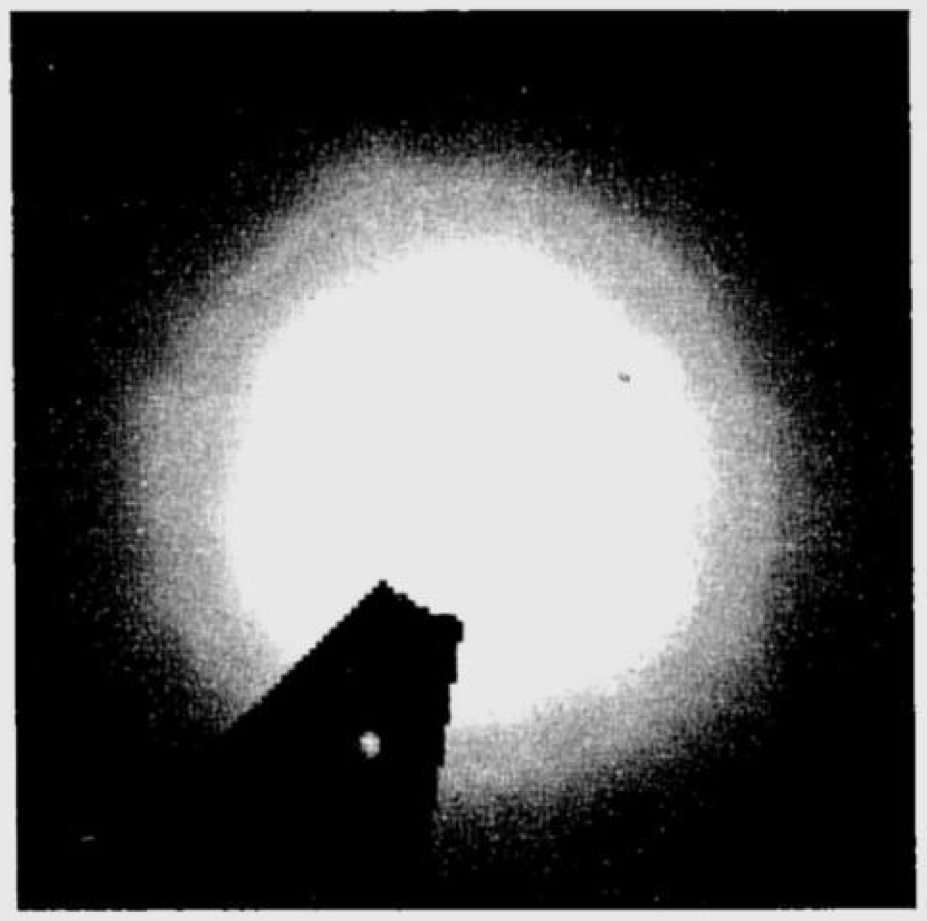
HEY, DIDDLE-DIDDLE!
A hot air-balloon shaped like a winged cow takes off in the skiing resort of Chateau d'Oex in the Swiss Alps during the 24th International Hot Air Balloon Week. Will this cow jump over the moon? Can you spot balloon shaped like a folded newspaper in the photo? *AP*

Robotic Employee

JAPAN'S first astronaut, MAMORU Mohri—no relation to Sailor Moon's love interest, poses beside Asimo. Honda Motor Co.'s walking humanoid robot is a new "employee" at the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation and will act as an interpreter to the museum's foreign guests. ***AP***



Brown Dwarf



USING new technology that sharpens the view of ground-based telescopes, astronomers have captured a direct image of a massive planet-like object called a brown dwarf, the small dot on the lower left, in close orbit of a distant star very much like the sun. ***AP***

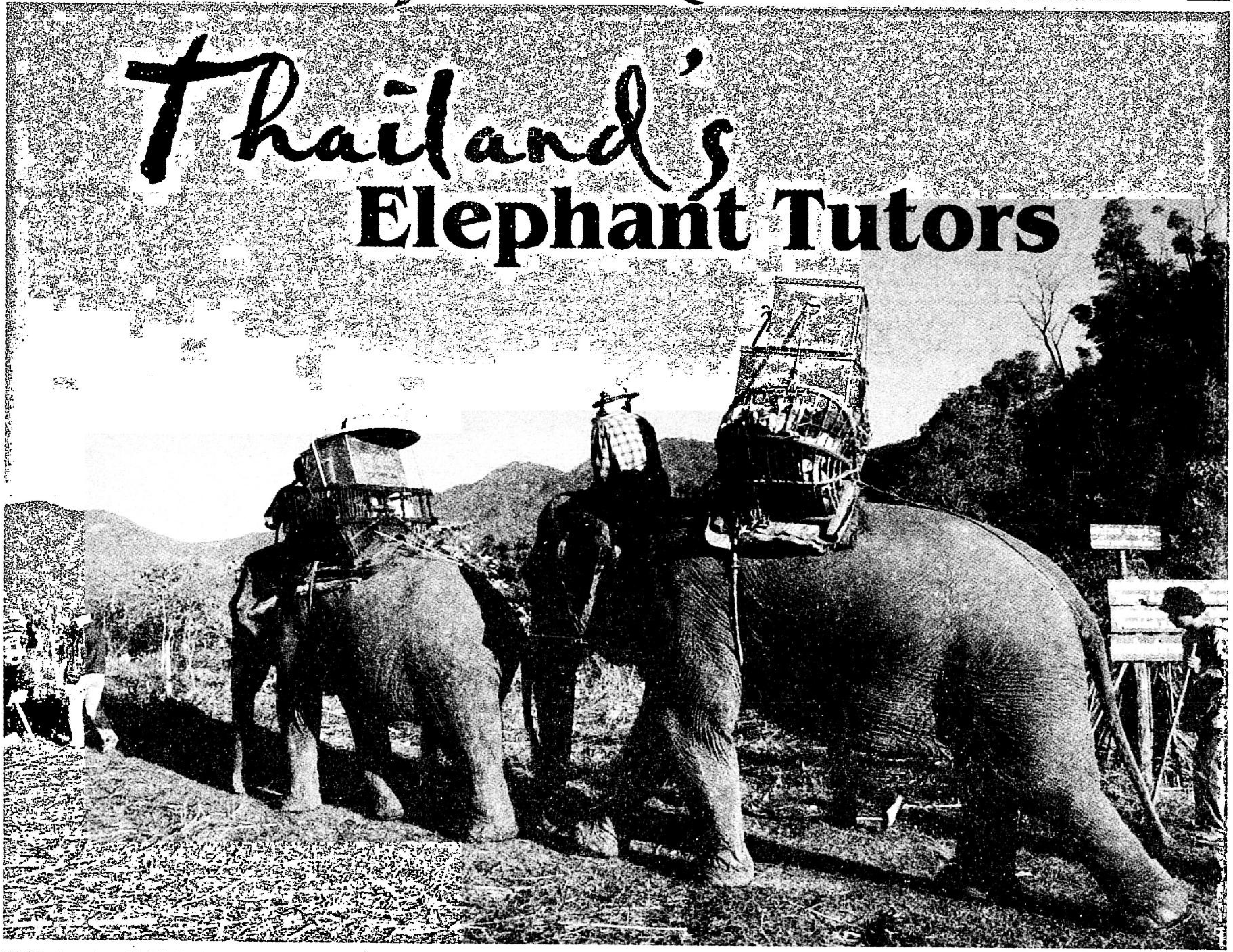
World Scope

Tokyo, Japan
Los Angeles, USA
Cape Canaveral, USA

Skating Champ

MICHELLE Kwan waves to the crowd after receiving her medal for winning the United States Figure Skating Championships. Kwan won her sixth U.S. Championship with Sasha Cohen finishing second and Sarah Hughes third. All three skaters will represent the United States at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. ***Reuters***

Thailand's Elephant Tutors



THAI education officials lead two elephants loaded with instruments in U-Jae village in Omkoi district of Chiang Mai province. Officials have to travel on elephants to deliver text books, education kits and satellite dishes to tribes people in remote jungle villages to help teach reading to more people. AP

Teaching where no Thai teacher has gone before—and getting there by elephant

CHOOLING is finally reaching the isolated tribes of northern Thailand's hill country, thanks to idealistic new teachers, satellite TV dishes—and sure-footed elephants.

Working on a really tight budget, Thailand's Non-Formal Education Department is using elephants to pack in teachers along with books and other educational materials, including television sets.

Many of the teachers are young graduates fired by a zeal to help the underprivileged, such as the minority tribes in the hills of Chiang Mai province, many of whom had never seen a textbook.

Elephant Power

The idea of using elephants just "popped up" during a planning session at his office, said Wichai Lowilert, director of Chiang Mai's Non-Formal Education Center in Bangkok, the capital.

"We've used horses and mules, but they can only serve some areas. They could not reach people in very remote areas," Wichai said.

"Making teachers walk there by themselves is no use. As elephants are already used in transporting rice, plowing fields and so on, we see the animals as the best carriers of knowledge to those areas," said Surapong Chaiwong, the non-formal education center's deputy director

Spreading the Learning

Wichai said that three teams, each comprising two elephants, their *mahouts*—or trainers—and two teachers, will travel three different routes, carrying with them video equipment, texts and a satellite dish.

Each team will stop at a village for two days to teach children and adults in traditional school subjects. They also will provide "some extra knowledge" to adults such as agricultural techniques and health care, Wichai said.

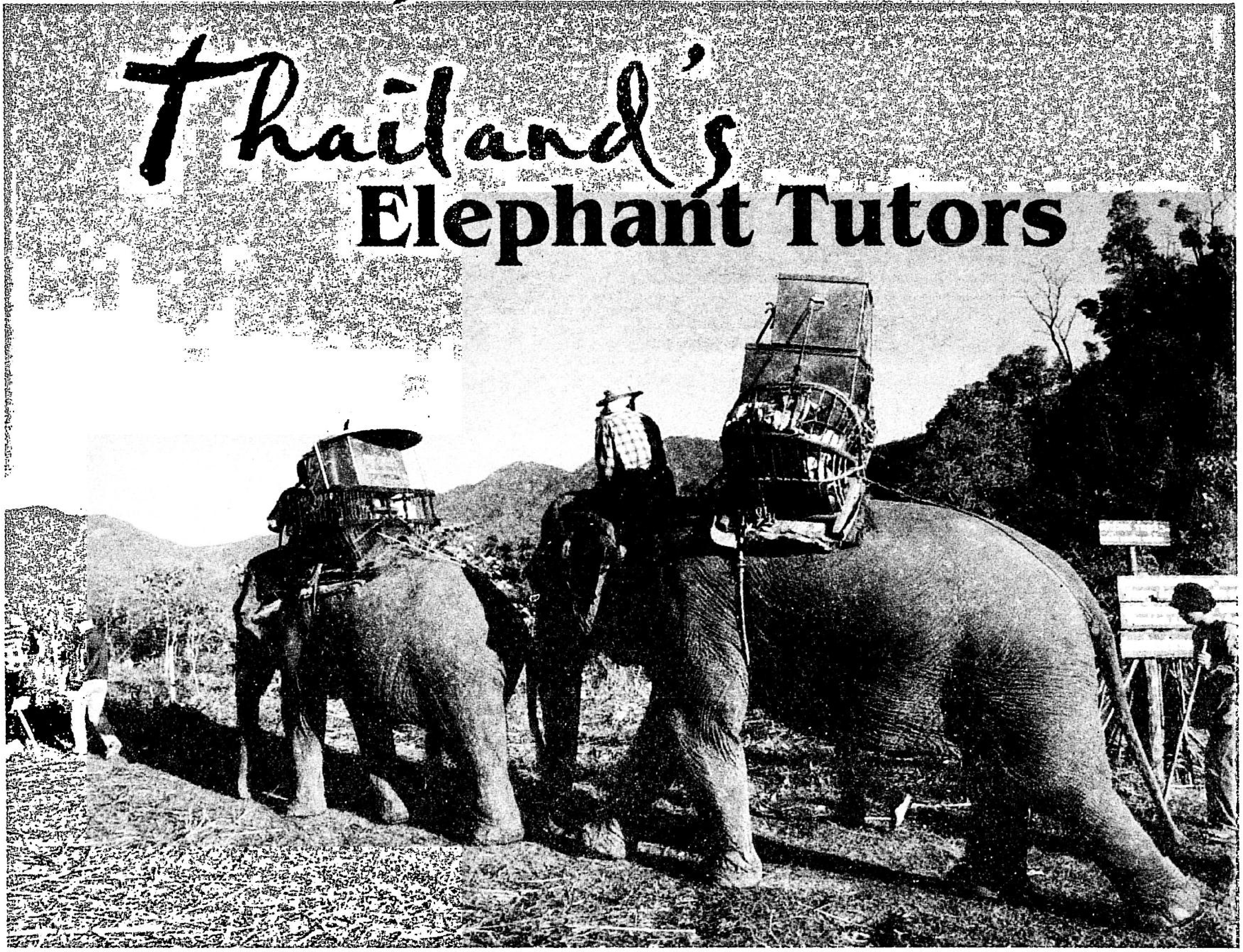
The teams will cycle through the villages, returning to each after two to three weeks.

About 3 million of Thailand's 62 million people are illiterate, which gives the country a high literacy rate of about 95 percent. But illiteracy is much higher in far off and remote areas.

Surapong said about 10,000 villagers in Omkoi district are illiterate, which makes it difficult for government workers to teach about such things as nutrition and health care.

"The program will ignite the villagers' interest in learning to read and write," he said. "They're illiterate because the place basically has nothing to stimulate them. The TV, videotapes and community activities will make them learn willingly." *AP*

Thailand's Elephant Tutors



THAI education officials lead two elephants loaded with instruments in U-Jae village in Omkoi district of Chiang Mai province. Officials have to travel on elephants to deliver text books, education kits and satellite dishes to tribes people in remote jungle villages to help teach reading to more people. AP

Teaching where no Thai teacher has gone before—and getting there by elephant

CHOOLING is finally reaching the isolated tribes of northern Thailand's hill country, thanks to idealistic new teachers, satellite TV dishes—and sure-footed elephants.

Working on a really tight budget, Thailand's Non-Formal Education Department is using elephants to pack in teachers along with books and other educational materials, including television sets.

Many of the teachers are young graduates fired by a zeal to help the underprivileged, such as the minority tribes in the hills of Chiang Mai province, many of whom had never seen a textbook.

Elephant Power

The idea of using elephants just "popped up" during a planning session at his office, said Wichai Lowilert, director of Chiang Mai's Non-Formal Education Center in Bangkok, the capital.

"We've used horses and mules, but they can only serve some areas. They could not reach people in very remote areas," Wichai said.

"Making teachers walk there by themselves is no use. As elephants are already used in transporting rice, plowing fields and so on, we see the animals as the best carriers of knowledge to those areas," said Surapong Chaiwong, the non-formal education center's deputy director

Spreading the Learning

Wichai said that three teams, each comprising two elephants, their *mahouts*—or trainers—and two teachers, will travel three different routes, carrying with them video equipment, texts and a satellite dish.

Each team will stop at a village for two days to teach children and adults in traditional school subjects. They also will provide "some extra knowledge" to adults such as agricultural techniques and health care, Wichai said.

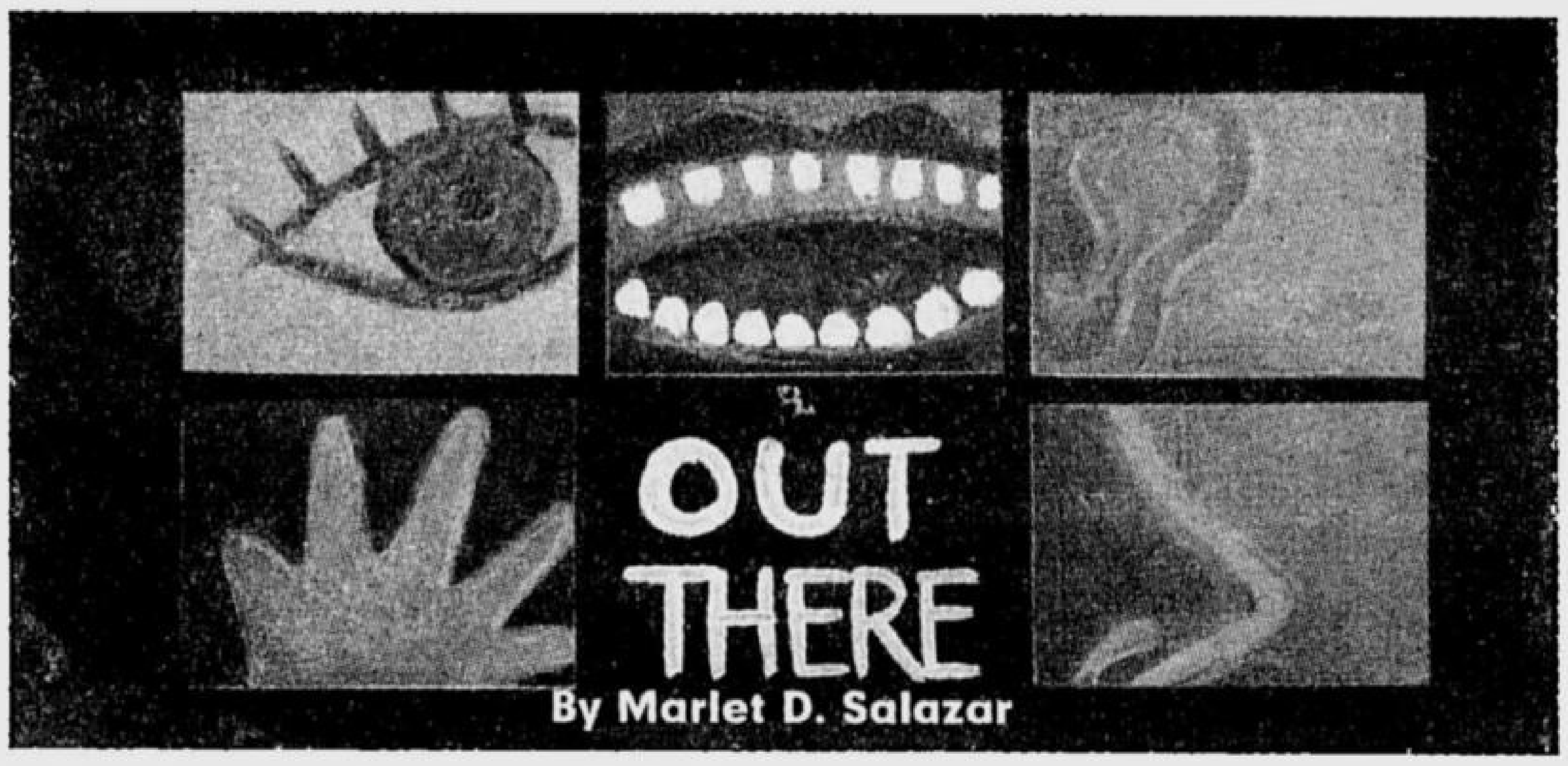
The teams will cycle through the villages, returning to each after two to three weeks.

About 3 million of Thailand's 62 million people are illiterate, which gives the country a high literacy rate of about 95 percent. But illiteracy is much higher in far off and remote areas.

Surapong said about 10,000 villagers in Omkoi district are illiterate, which makes it difficult for government workers to teach about such things as nutrition and health care.

"The program will ignite the villagers' interest in learning to read and write," he said. "They're illiterate because the place basically has nothing to stimulate them. The TV, videotapes and community activities will make them learn willingly." **AP**

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



OUT THERE

By Marlet D. Salazar

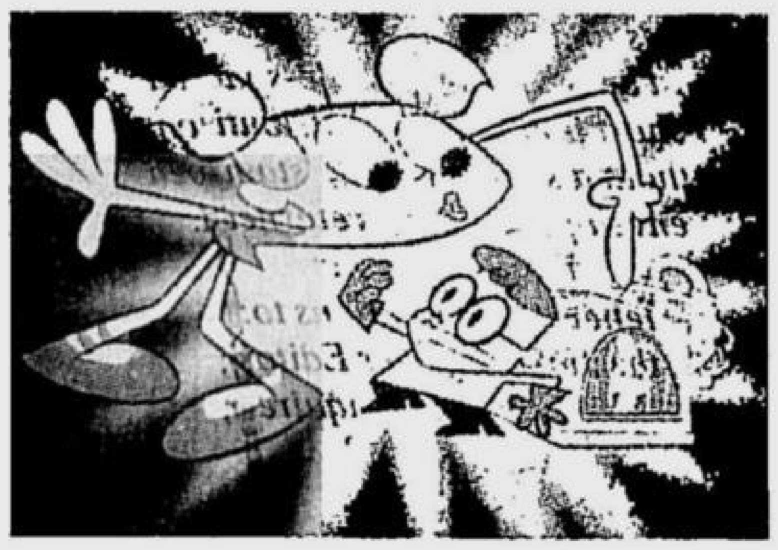
Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

Contest

BEDTIME STORY. Here's another one of 'em storywriting contests. This time, it's for the perfect bedtime story. You can join the contest solo or invite a friend to be your teammate. The contest is called "Dreamweaver" and you'll have to think of a story about "family togetherness." Call the "Family Read-er Magazine" office at 631-2859 for more details or check out www.ivegotstyle.net. Uh-oh! Deadline is on Jan. 31.

Workshops

SEACAMP IN FLORIDA. There's this three-week sea camp in Florida, USA being offered by an organization called Institute for Foreign Studies. You'll need lot's of moolah to participate in this. A whopping $3,500 or around P180,000 according to the IFS. Yikes! But if you're interested, they're looking for kids between the ages 9 and 11. At the camp you'll do lots of a hands-on marine ecology activities and study American History and Culture.There will be trips to Disney's Magic Kingdom, Universal Studios and the Kennedy Space Center. What are you waiting for? Call Grace at 896-7010 to 11, send an email to ifs@skyinet.net or visit their website: www.ifsphil.com.



WANTED: STORYTELLERS. Hey! Be a volunteer storyteller in Museo Pambata's Mobile Library Program. You'll meet lots of other kids and get your grubby hands on lots of new and exciting books. Plus, you get to ride on that cool library-on-wheels. To sign up call Noreen at 523-1797 to 98.

Cable Picks

DEXTER'S EXPLOITS. Join boy genius Dexter and his annoying yet lovable sister Dee Dee in their exciting adventures today at 7:30 p.m. on Cartoon Network. Today's episodes include "Sister's Got a Brand New Bag," "Shoo, Shoe Games," and Lab of the Lost."

EARTH REPORT. Every Sunday of February, get ready for an exciting ride on National Geographic Channel's "Earth Report" at 8 p.m. "Earth Report" will feature Mount Kenya, Cambodia and the Philippines.

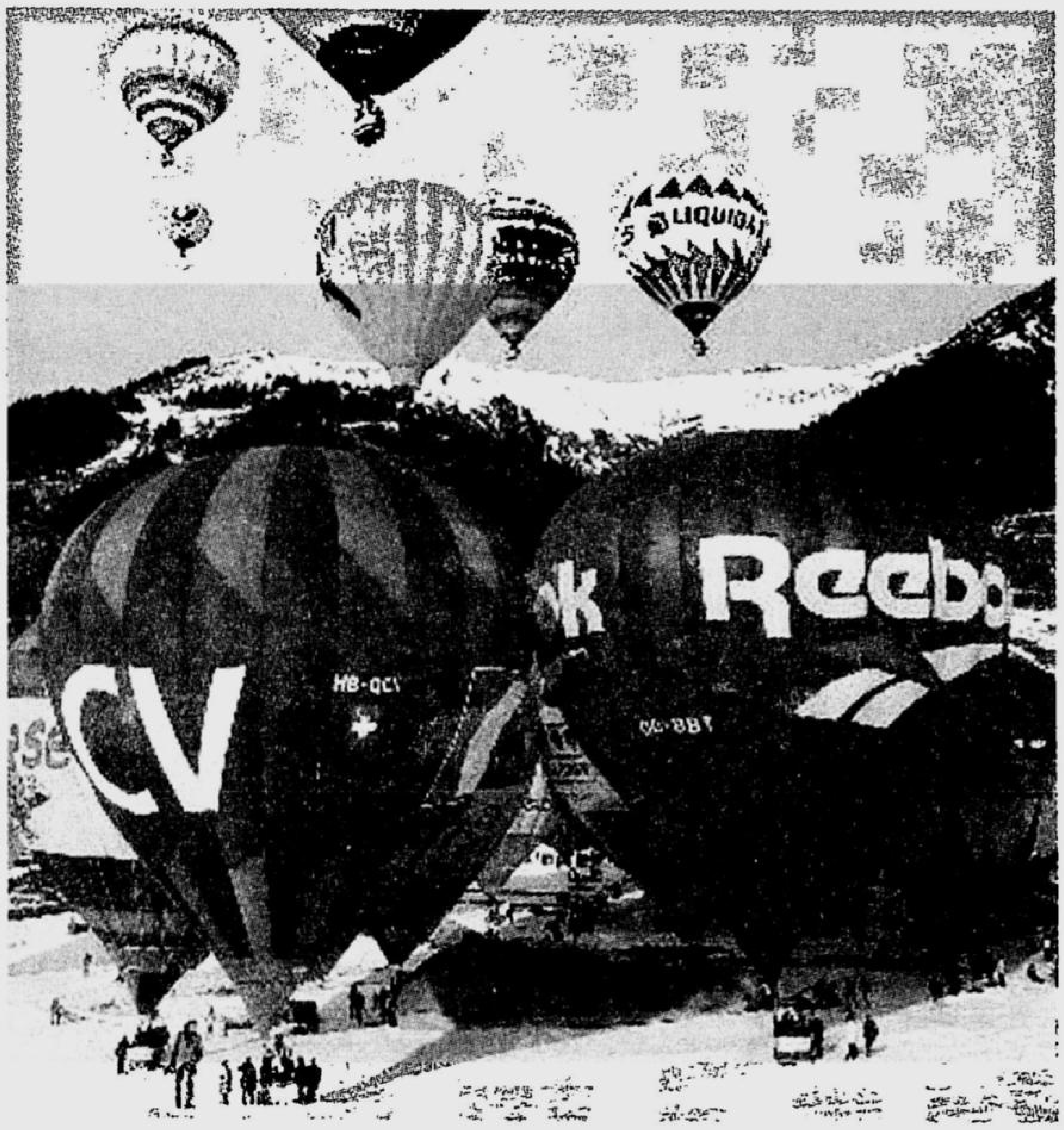
Cow in my Eye

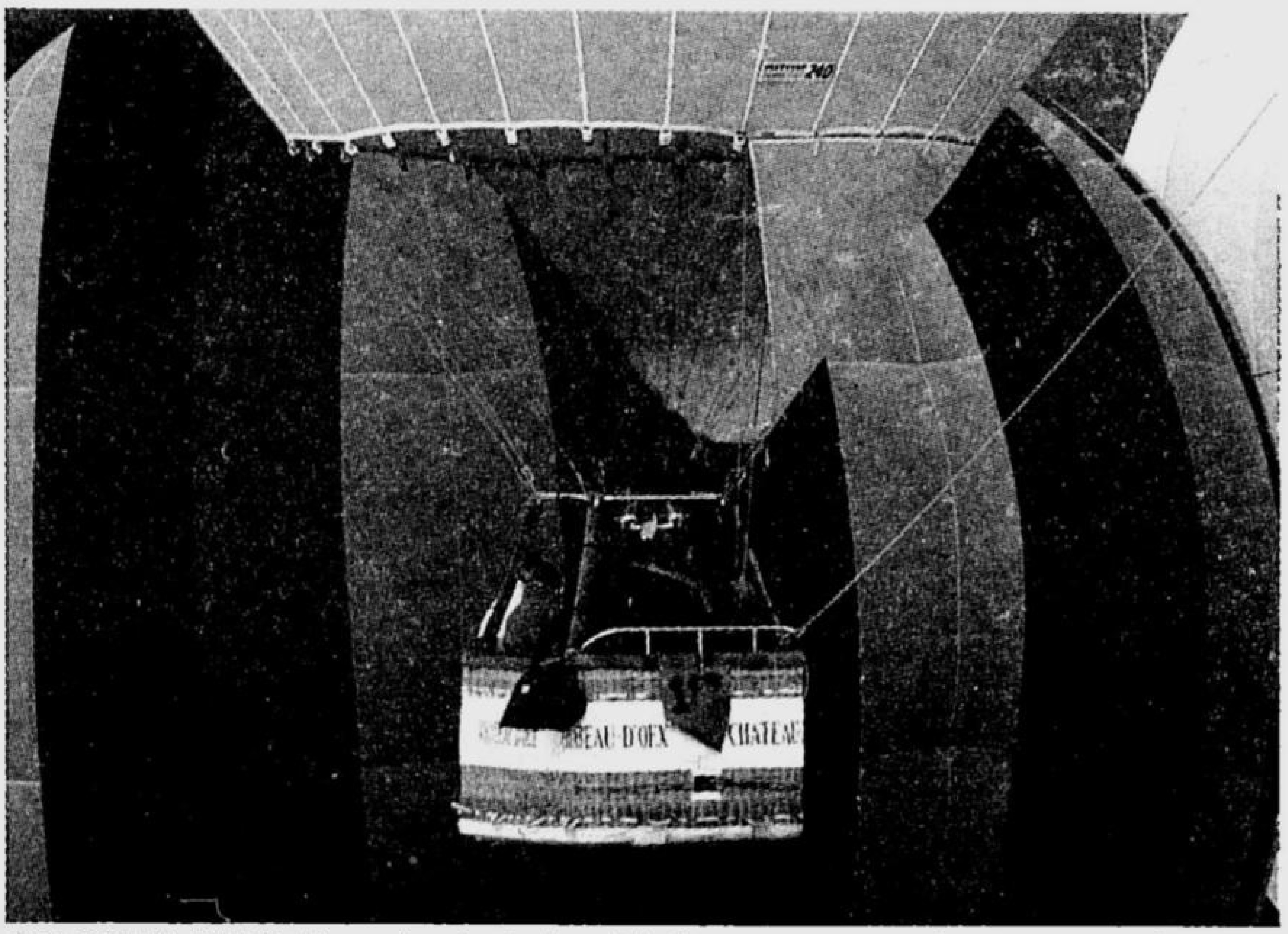
(from page 1)

countries. The festival has been around for 24 years.

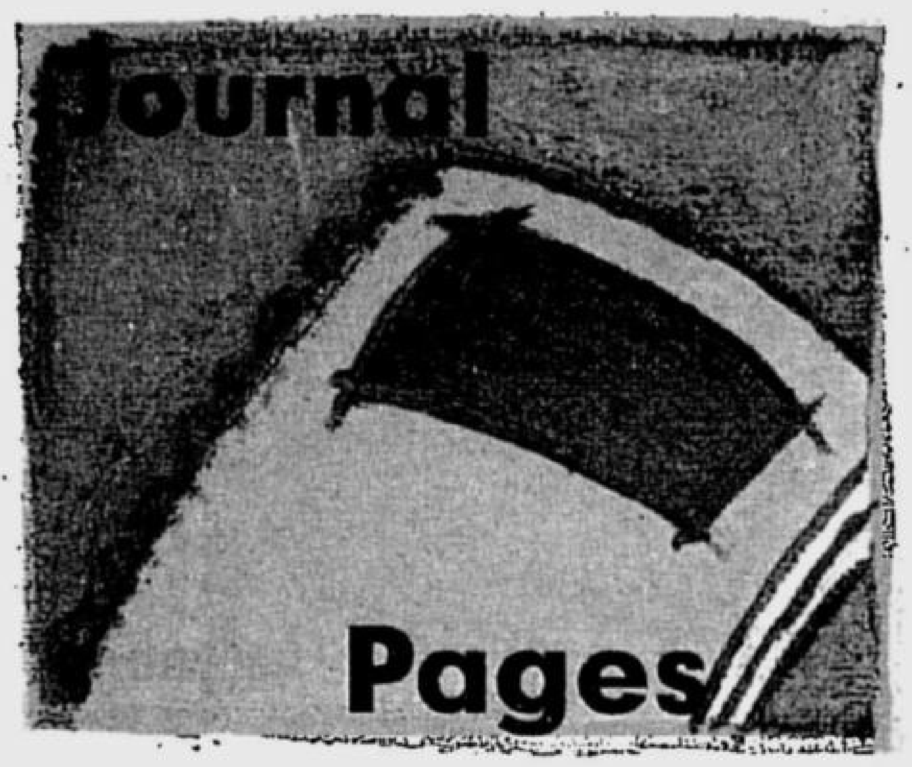
It was a zany spectacle of soaring colors and shapes. This year's favorites include a flying cow and a big rolled up newspaper.

The week-long festival kicked off on Jan. 19 and drew more than 60,000 spectators and 150 journalists from all over the world. ***AP***



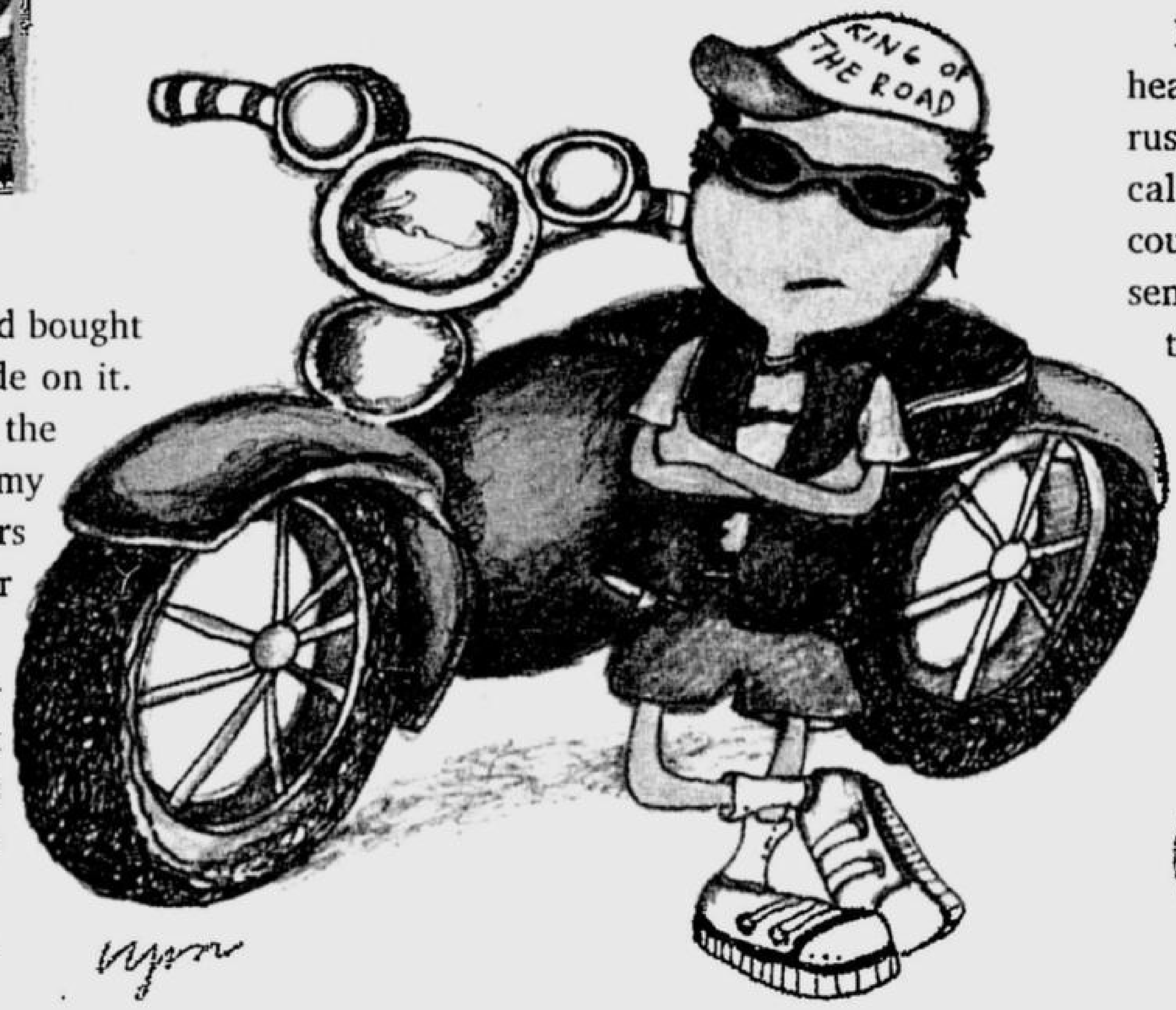


COLORFUL WEEK. Even simply-designed balloons were amazing to see up close.



A Foolish Challenge

By Crisanto Macaraeg
St. Joseph Academy, Quezon City



WHEN I reached my 8th birthday, Dad bought me a motorcycle. My! I was so excited to ride on it. Anyway, any boy of my age would surely feel the same, right? Boy, I really felt big as I paraded my motorcycle around our place while my peers looked at me enviously. "Well, too bad for them," I remember thinking haughtily.

One morning, I was again riding my motorcycle with my friend Mickey. A group of cyclist stopped us and challenged us to a race. I was about to refuse when one of them called us "cowards."

"I, a coward?" I thought. I just couldn't accept that. So we took them on.

The race was going fine for a while. We were third among six racers. I impulsively increased my speed because I was determined to win. Suddenly, the second-placer cut without warning. Our wheels hit each other and "boom"! I fell. I bumped my head on the hard pavement and I bled.

It was horrible! I saw blood dripping down my forehead. My companions were nervous, too. They hurriedly rushed me to my dad's clinic at our house. My father calmly treated my wound. Though it was painful, I couldn't complain because I knew it was my fault. I let senseless pride win over my common sense, all because the riders called me names.

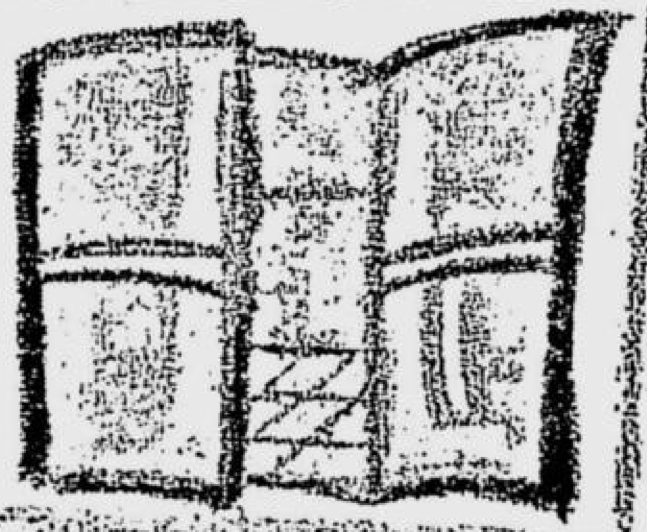
My father is a doctor and he is a patient man. He did not blame me. He even told me that he learned his lesson: that he would not allow me to ride my motorcycle without a helmet. I learned my own lesson: "Don't be proud lest God lets you fall."

Sound Familiar?

Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

Straight from JI Readers

You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!



Mom Dislikes Harry Potter

Dear Editor,

I AGREE with Isabel Cuerva (Straight from JI Readers, Dec. 29, 2001) that being a bookworm isn't bad at all! I was a Harry Potter fan before, but when my friend's classmate searched the Internet, he found something that said every Harry Potter book contains an evil spirit. . .When my mom found about this from my brother, she told me that all of us will never ever watch the movie, play the PlayStation game ,or read the book! It was awfully terrible, but I must obey my mom, because you know! I want to know only one thing: Is Harry Potter really witchcraft? Note: my mom hates witchcraft!—**NAME WITHHELD**, 11, Antipolo City

Dear Reader,

A lot of people choose to believe certain things for certain reasons. I know your mom has her reasons for not wanting you to touch anything Harry Potter. I think what's foremost in her mind is just to protect you from something that she perceives will harm you. And because she's your parent, you do have to respect that.

I think she raised you well because you seem a very intelligent and inquisitive young girl: you want to know if Harry Potter is indeed harmful, or as that certain Internet article claims, witchcraft. No one can really tell you the answer for certain. It's up to you to decide what you think holds true.

If you want my opinion, here it is. I think Harry Potter is a wonderful series about a young wizard and how he finds his true identity and his lifelong friends.

It's purely fiction, meaning a tale that is not based on fact. Do I think it's evil? Nope. On the contrary, I think it has encouraged kids like you to get into the habit of reading more than any reading campaign the Department of Education has ever done.

Besides, I've read it and I certainly haven't grown horns or a forked slithering tongue. I could go on of course, but I would just be repeating many letters that have appeared on this section before. What's most important is: what do you think?—***The Editor***

Junior INQUIRER

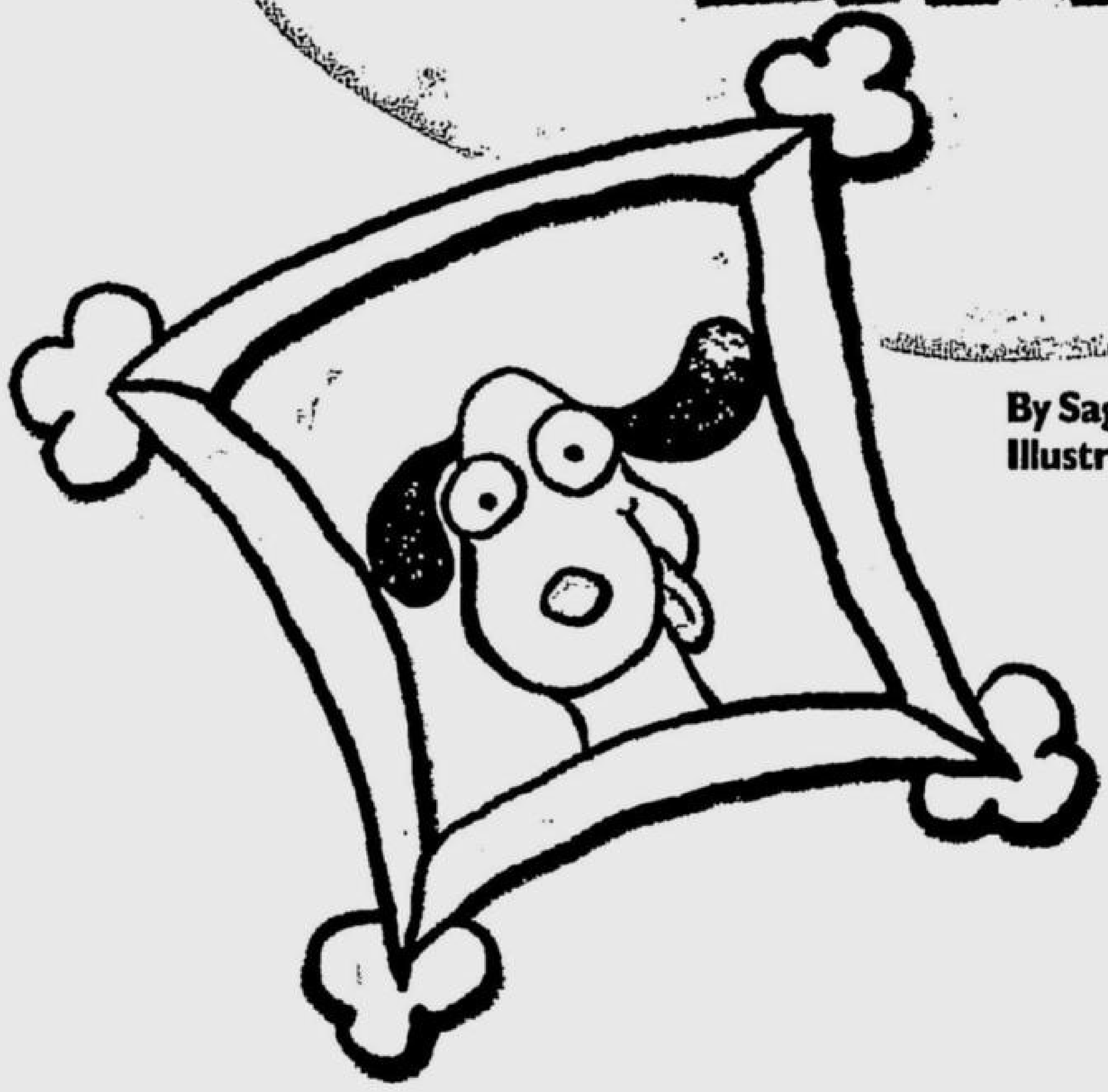
NATASHA VIZCARRA
Editor
LYNETT A. VILLARIBA
Design Consultant
MARLET D. SALAZAR
Editorial Assistant
STEPHANIE BRAVO
Artist
ERNIE SAMBO
Graphics Designer
GENIE LAGMAN
Image Setter
KENNY NUYDA
Advertising Sales Manager

Junior Inquirer (JI) welcomes your views, suggestions, essays, short stories and poems. All contributions must be typewritten double-spaced on short bond paper. Contributions without a self-addressed, stamped envelope will not be returned.

Please send your letters & contributions to:
the Junior Inquirer Editor,
Philippine Daily Inquirer,
P.O. Box 2353,
Makati Central Post Office,
1263 Makati City,
Philippines

A DOG'S LIFE

By Saga McFarland
Illustrations by Katrina B. Villa



I swoop into the air and catch the flying
Frisbee you throw. You give me food, water,
You tell me all I need to know. But what I don't
Understand, is why you throw me out.
On the porch to sleep in the cold.
My nose, a very good sniffer, my eyes,
Not a perfect sight, my hearing doesn't need
An aid, my speed is quite all right.
I love to play with anything.
That you throw at me, my f
of course are bones, what e
Think I'd eat? I love to terr
I know it's kind of mean, b
Cannot help myself from
Being so fierce and mean.
I snuggle up with you throu
Days, with no complaints a
I scare away the mailman,
Scare away the cars, I scare
The rodents, the cats, bats,
Pussy-cats.
But my only question is,
Just why don't you don't gi
Me food when I
Beg, plead, whimper, and y
And why can't I sleep in th
Nice and cozy bed?
Why don't I have a cool na
Instead of Spunky, Sparky
And that dumb name Preci
Why did I have to get stuck
I mean, when you're living
This fur coat is pain in the
Those claws could scratch

Saga, 10, *is a Grade 5 student at International School Manila. She enjoys swimming, danci*
She has an imagination full of unicorns, gnomes, fairytales and fantasy, and she
Niña *is the creator of "The Lunch Box." She is a member of Ang Ilustrador*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

FOR or By KIDS

avorite
else do you
ify cats,
ut I just

ugh the
t all.
and I
e away
and

ve

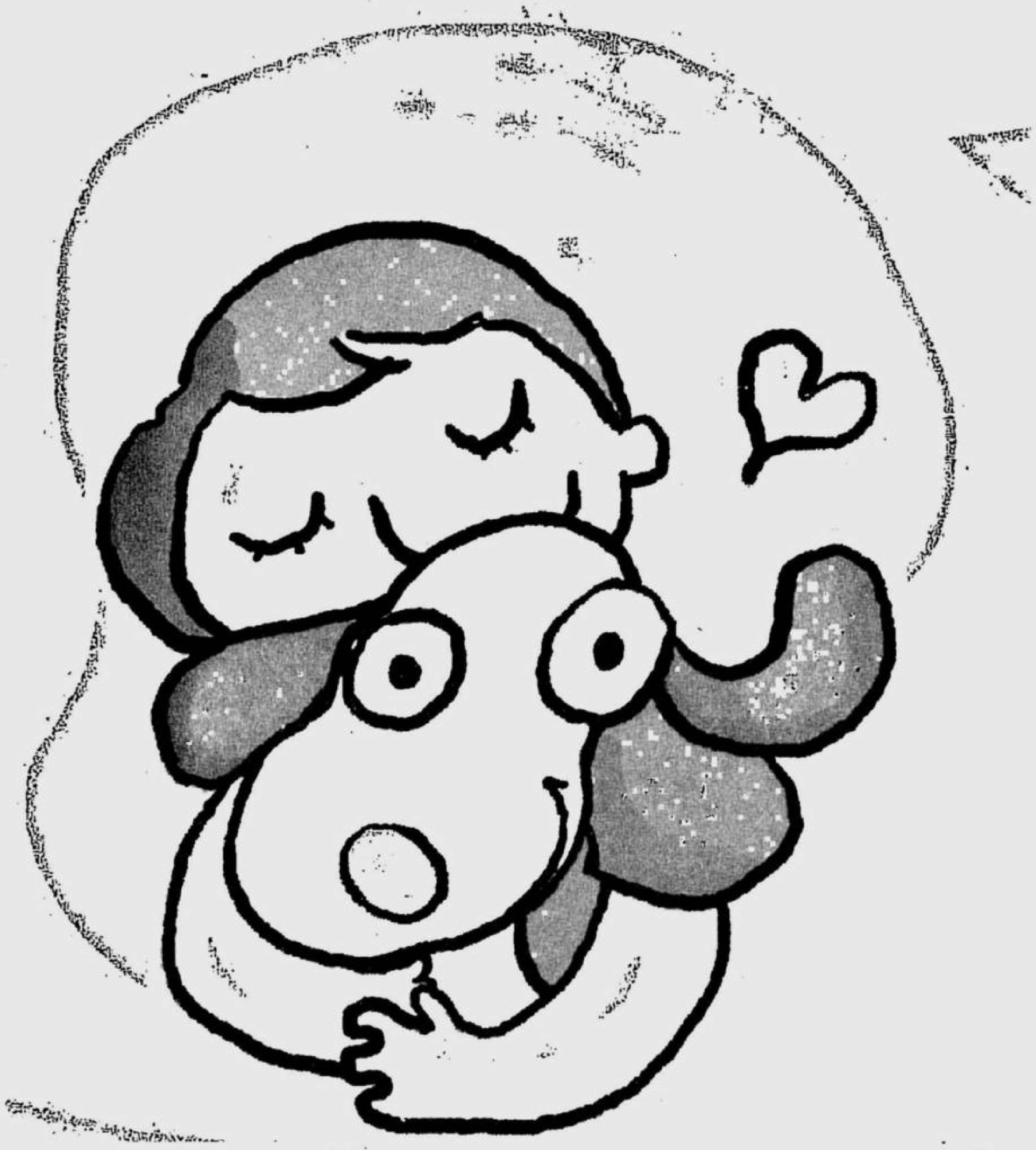
ell?
e

ne,

ous?
with this body?
in the tropics,
eck!
ne.

ng, acting and of course, writing.
's not afraid to use it.
ng Kabataan.

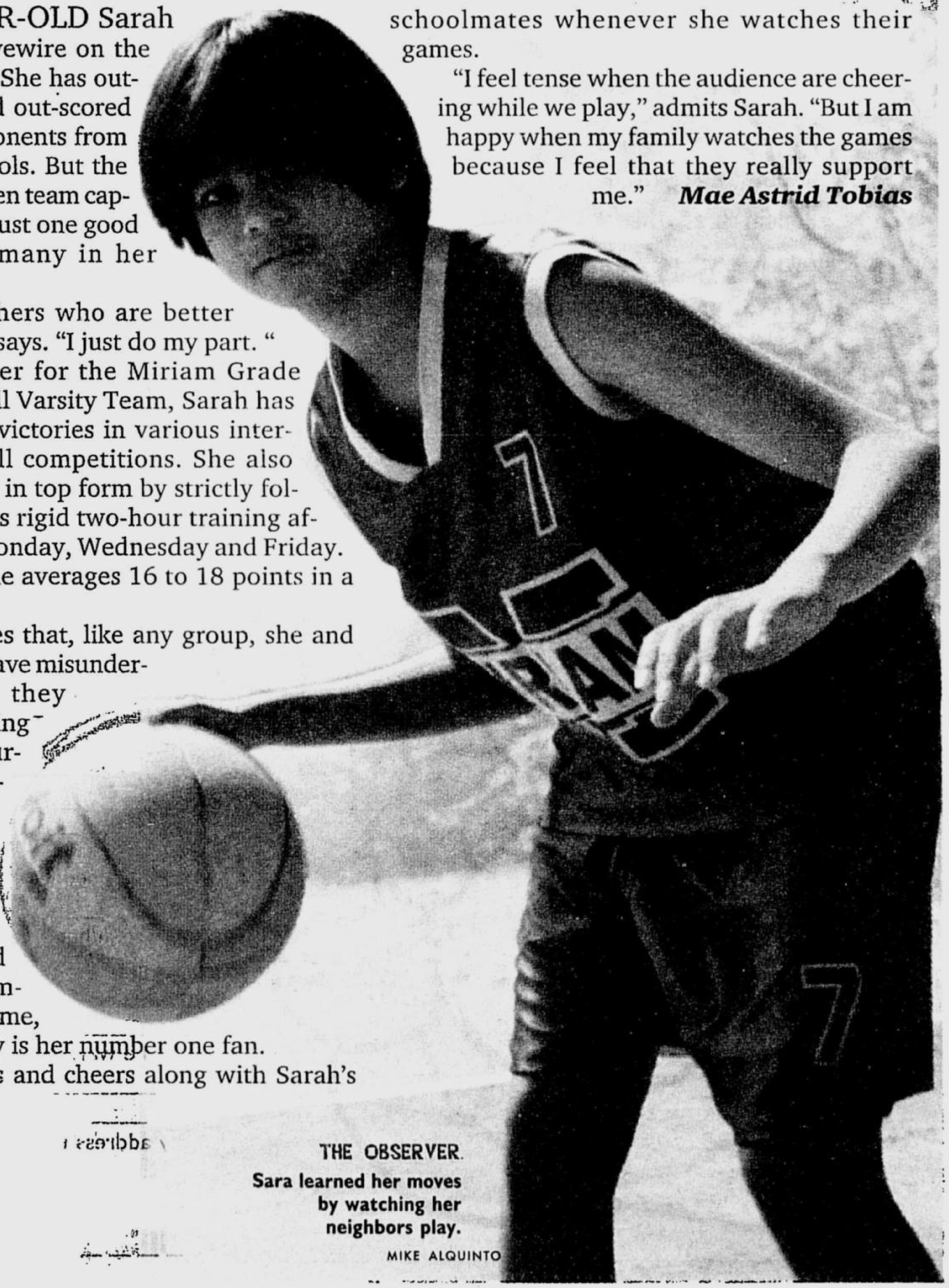
When I'm asleep, and the teeth, of the teeth,
They're so huge, and when I have dog food,
Who needs 'em anyway?
I hate the way I have to walk on
Four feet, and the way that I,
Look when I'm asleep.
The only thing I truly love,
About my life, is this:
I love my owners, the ones
I kiss, with my big, sloppy tongue.



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Straight-Shooting Sarah

Miriam Grade School's MVP talks about team fun and how great it is when mom comes to the games



THE OBSERVER.
Sara learned her moves by watching her neighbors play.
MIKE ALQUINTO

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD Sarah Mercado is a livewire on the basketball court. She has outrun, out-shot and out-scored many of her opponents from other grade schools. But the shy and soft-spoken team captain insists she's just one good player among many in her team.

"There are others who are better than me," Sarah says. "I just do my part. "

As a top player for the Miriam Grade School Basketball Varsity Team, Sarah has led the team to victories in various interschool basketball competitions. She also makes sure she's in top form by strictly following the team's rigid two-hour training after class every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Small wonder she averages 16 to 18 points in a game.

Sarah confesses that, like any group, she and her teammates have misunderstandings. But they keep close by being together even during recess. Whenever they win a game, they also like to celebrate by eating out.

Sarah has her share of fans and admirers on campus. But back home, her mother Vicky is her number one fan.

Her mom yells and cheers along with Sarah's schoolmates whenever she watches their games.

"I feel tense when the audience are cheering while we play," admits Sarah. "But I am happy when my family watches the games because I feel that they really support me." ***Mae Astrid Tobias***

R RRIFIC?

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're 'Rriffic' or know someone who is, fill out the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC' Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces
cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a **free Junior Inquirer T-shirt!**

Kids 'r'rrific

nomination form

✂

I nominate: ______________________
____

Age: _____________________________

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because:
(Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)
____
____
____
____
____
____
____
____

She/he lives at __________________
____
____

and studies at ___________________
____

Her/his contact number is:
____

Sender's Name: ___________________
____

Sender's Age & School: ___________
____

Sender's Address: ________________
____

Sender's Contact No. _____________
____

Diego who?

Pioneer "5 and Up" reporter Diego-Silang Maranan remembers exciting days and some lessons of life

by Mae Astrid Tobias

MOST of you are probably too young to remember. But 10 years ago, when the popular telemagazine for kids, called "5 and Up," was first aired on TV, Diego-Silang Maranan was among the first batch kids who traveled the Philippines in search of a good story.

Today, Diego is a 22-year-old college student in Vancouver, Canada, finishing a degree in Computer Science. But to Diego, his young life in "5 and Up" was a time of adventure and valuable lessons.

When he started working with "5 and Up" at 12 years old, he was still very self-conscious. But he quickly learned how to interview people, how to organize his thoughts and how to act on TV.

"I remember my first two stories ever," Diego says. "The first one was about elderly people in the Golden Acres. The next one was about a summer camp for learning disabled kids."

"Those two were very heavy stories but they stuck," he adds.

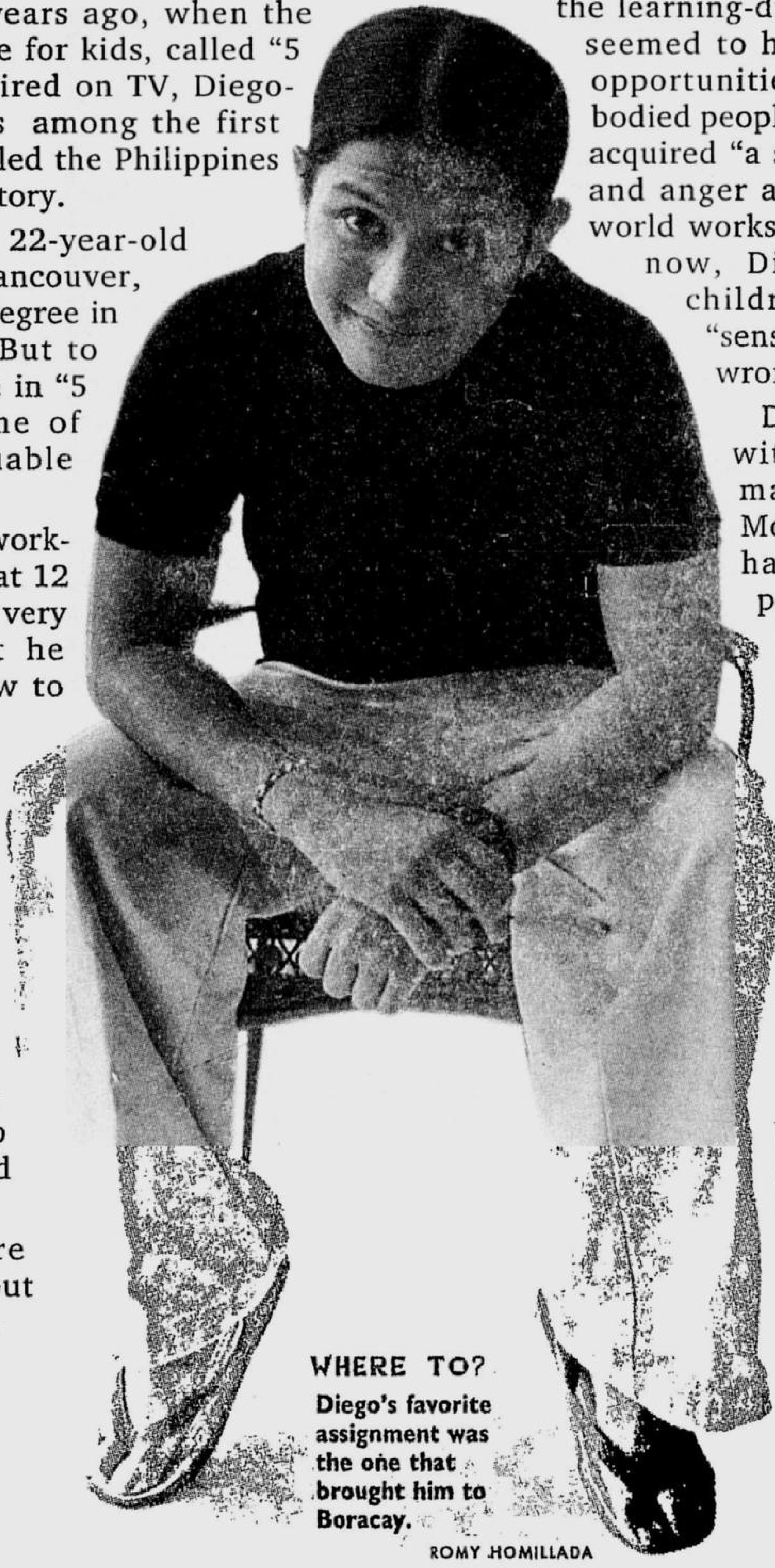
He felt bad about how the elderly and the learning-disabled kids did not seemed to have a fair share of opportunities as healthy, able-bodied people. That was when he acquired "a sense of compassion and anger and fury at how the world works." Thinking about it now, Diego realizes that children have an innate "sense of what is right or wrong and what is just."

Diego has lost contact with most of batchmates in the show. Most of his friends now haven't a clue to his past as a child host. But Diego doesn't mind.

"I'm happy to be a pioneer" he says. "I don't care about the fame."

He says he's happy to be part of something that is still going strong and that teaches good things.

"Eventually, I will be lost in the murky depths of "5 and Up" history," he chuckles. "But who cares? It was fun while it lasted and I had good time."



WHERE TO?
Diego's favorite assignment was the one that brought him to Boracay.

ROMY HOMILLADA

Do you know a grown-up who

- is fun to be with
- has an exciting job
- keeps an amazing hobby
- is all of the above???

If you know a grown-up whom all kids will love, give him or her the stamp:

A.K.A. COOL

Just fill out the nomination form below and tell us why your fave grown-up is the absolute coolest. If your nominee is chosen, ***YOU'LL*** *get a free JI T-shirt! Now that's really cool.*

A.K.A. COOL
is an 'adult known as cool'
They're the folks
in our own family
Or the people
we meet in school.

I nominate __________________.
He/She is _______ years old and
is my______________________.
Here are five super solid reasons why I think you should write about him/her:
1)________________________;
2)________________________;
3)________________________;
4)________________________;
and
5)________________________.

My nominee lives at____________
__________________________.
Give him/her a call at
____
or send him/her an e-mail
at________________________.
By the way, I'm______________
__________________________.
I'm ______ years old.
My address is ______________
__________________________.
You may call me at ____________

Creepin' Cryobot!

HOT BULLET

NASA scientists are hoping to use this ice-penetrating probe, called the Cryrobot (shown above), to explore beneath the ice that caps the poles of Mars and all of jupiter's moon Europa. *AP Photo/NASA, Jet Propulsion Laboratories*

NASA Robot Melts Arctic Ice in Test

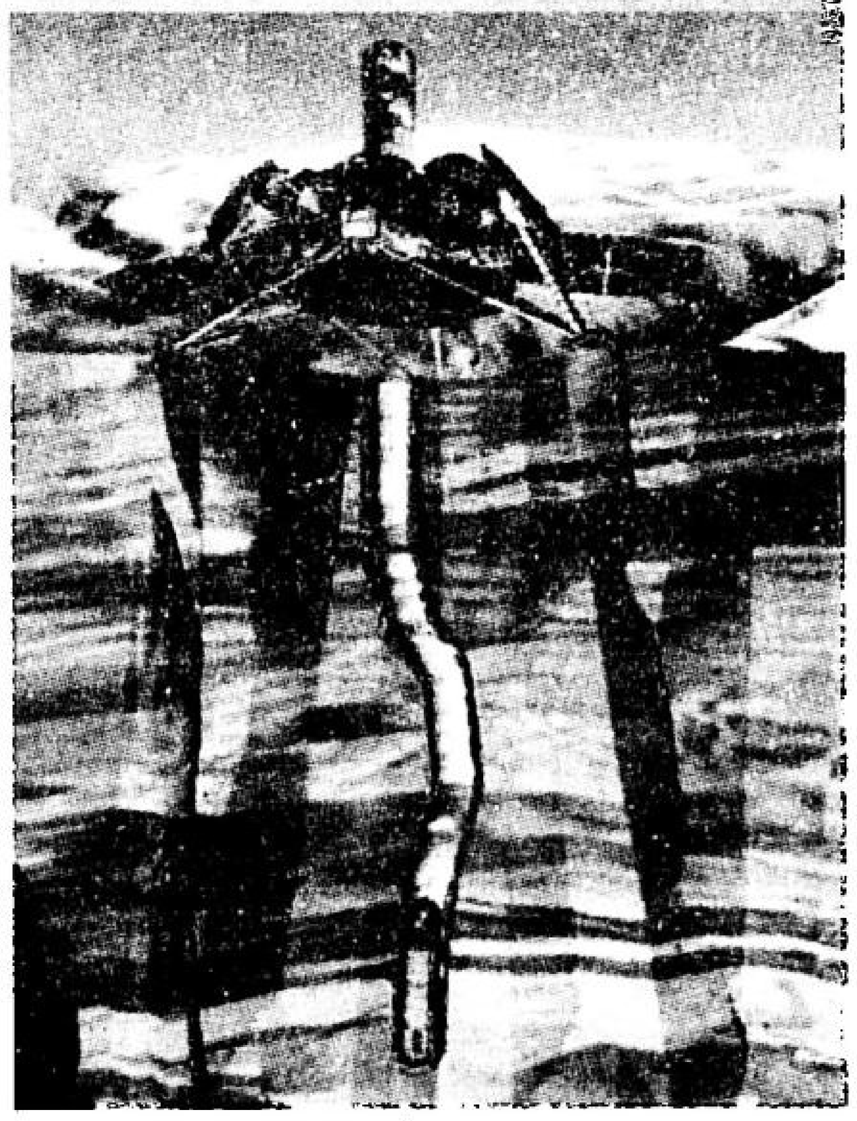
A HOT-NOSED robot melted its way 23 kilometers, into an Arctic glacier in a test of NASA technology that one day could probe for life deep under ice on Earth, Mars and Jupiter's frozen moon Europa.

The cylindrical Cryobot—its copper tip heated to temperatures up to 195 degrees Fahrenheit—took four days to bore into the glacier on the island of Spitsbergen, north of the Arctic Circle.

"It was basically like a hot iron against the ice," said Lloyd French, who was among scientists from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the California Institute of Technology involved in October's test.

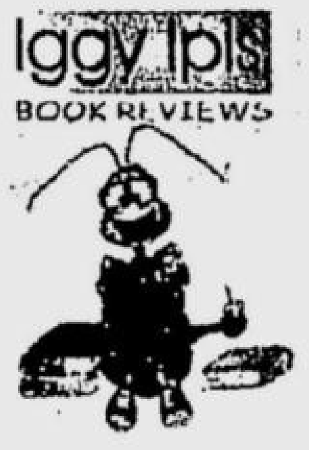
The Cyrobot which measures 3.3 feet long and about 5 inches in diameter—was developed with an eye toward space and the prospect of missions to Mars and Europa, which is carpeted with thick ice that blankets what may be an ocean of liquid water.

"By no means is Earth merely a testing ground for Europa and Mars," said Frank Carsey, a Cryobot scientist at JPL. "There are many interesting environments on Earth where a Cryobot could be the best technology for conducting safe and effective scientific studies." ***AP***



QUICK MELT

The Cryobot ice-penetrating probe is seen in this artist rendition (right) melting it's way through layers of ice on the surface of an icy planet. *AP*



It's a Cowlick Book

HELLO! Iggy Ipis reporting again. The next book I'll be telling you about is titled "Dalawang Puyo" which, in English, means two cowlicks.

Now, this has absolutely nothing to do with licking cows (eww!). A cowlick is that little swirl of hair one usually finds on top of one's head.

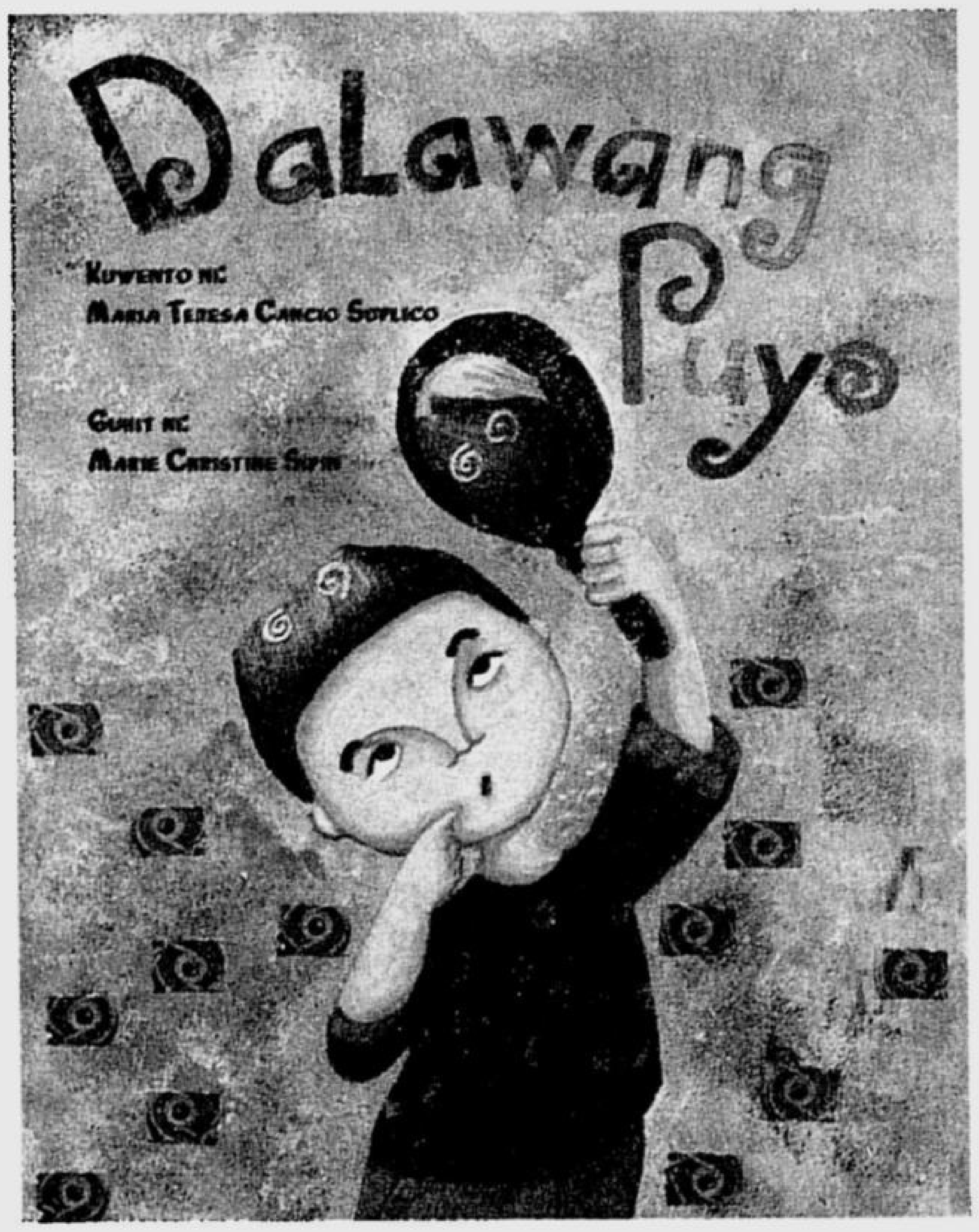
Now, most humans have one cowlick. Cockroaches don't have any, of course. But there are humans who have two cowlicks, or even three.

Maria Teresa Cancio Suplico's (Whew! What a long name!) book is about a boy who has two. And this little boy's current mission is to find out how cowlicks came to be and why he has two. Lots of his relatives have different theories. For example, his father says two cowlicks are two extra eyes at the back of his head.

Creepy, huh.

Nevertheless, the boy has a swell time looking for explanations. "Dalawang Puyo" is illustrated by Marie Christine Sipin, a member of the Ilustrador ng Kabataan and a contributing illustrator to JI.

So check the book out! It's available at all Goodwill Bookstore branches nationwide.



¿ThinkathoN?
BY BONG BARRAMIDA

January Diary

JANUARY, the first month of the year, is full of historical "firsts," a dozen of which form this week's test. How many of them do you know?

1. The Malolos Republic, the first democratic government in Asia, was inaugurated on January 23, 1899, in what "holy" place in Bulacan?

2. The world's first telephone directory was published on January 15, 1880, in which city?
- London
- Paris
- New York

3. On January 29, 1886, the first gasoline-driven car was invented by German automotive engineer Karl Benz. True or False?

4. Funny we should ask the first local cartoon strip, which made its debut run in Liwayway magazine on January 11, 1929. What was it?

5. The first Roman Catholic—and youngest ever elected —president of the United States was inaugurated on January 20, 1961. Who?
- Dwight Eisenhower
- John F. Kennedy
- Lyndon B. Johnson

6. It might help to be "charming" to get this: What was Disney's first full-length color cartoon film, which went on general release on January 14, 1938?

7. Which famous scientist—and the first man to use the telescope to gaze the Milky Way—died on January 8, 1642, his last words allegedly, "But it (Earth) still goes around the Sun?"

8. Corazon Aquino, the first woman Philippine president, was born on January 25, 1933, in—
- Tarlac, Tarlac
- Manila
- Cebu City

9. Hang on and tell us the first Beatles' song to make it to the US pop charts on January 13, 1964.

10. What European country held the world's first state lottery on January 11, 1569?
- France
- Italy
- England

11. As millions watched in horror and disbelief, what space shuttle mission exploded soon after takeoff on January 28, 1986, the first tragedy to strike the space shuttle program?
- Atlantis
- Challenger
- Columbia

12. What term was given to the tumultuous socio-political events in early 1970 that started with the violent dispersal of a student demonstration in front of the Philippine Congress building in Manila on January 26th?

Answers:

1. Barasoain Church (Malolos)
2. London
3. True
4. Kenkoy
5. John F. Kennedy
6. "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"
7. Galileo (Galilei)
8. Manila
9. "I Wanna Hold Your Hand"
10. England
11. Challenger
12. "First Quarter Storm"

Ratings:

superbrain!
excellent!
good!

11-12 9-10 7-8

JUNIORINQUIRER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2002

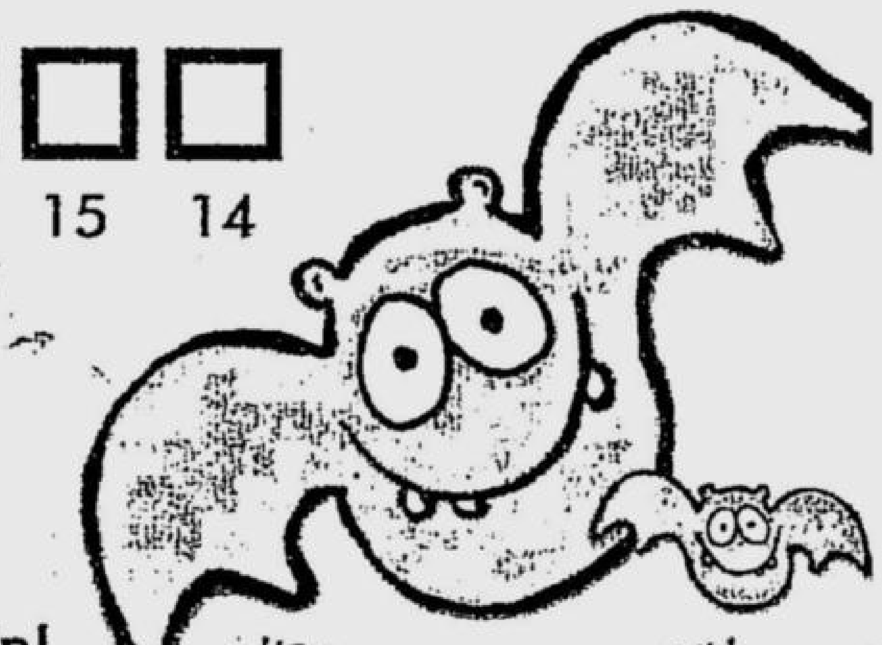
THE LUNCH BOX

by Katrina B. Villa

Certain animals, bats and dolphins among them, use this to navigate. They emit sound waves that bounce back from an object, giving the animal information about its size, shape and distance. What is it called?

☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	3	8	15	12	15	3	1	20	9	15	14

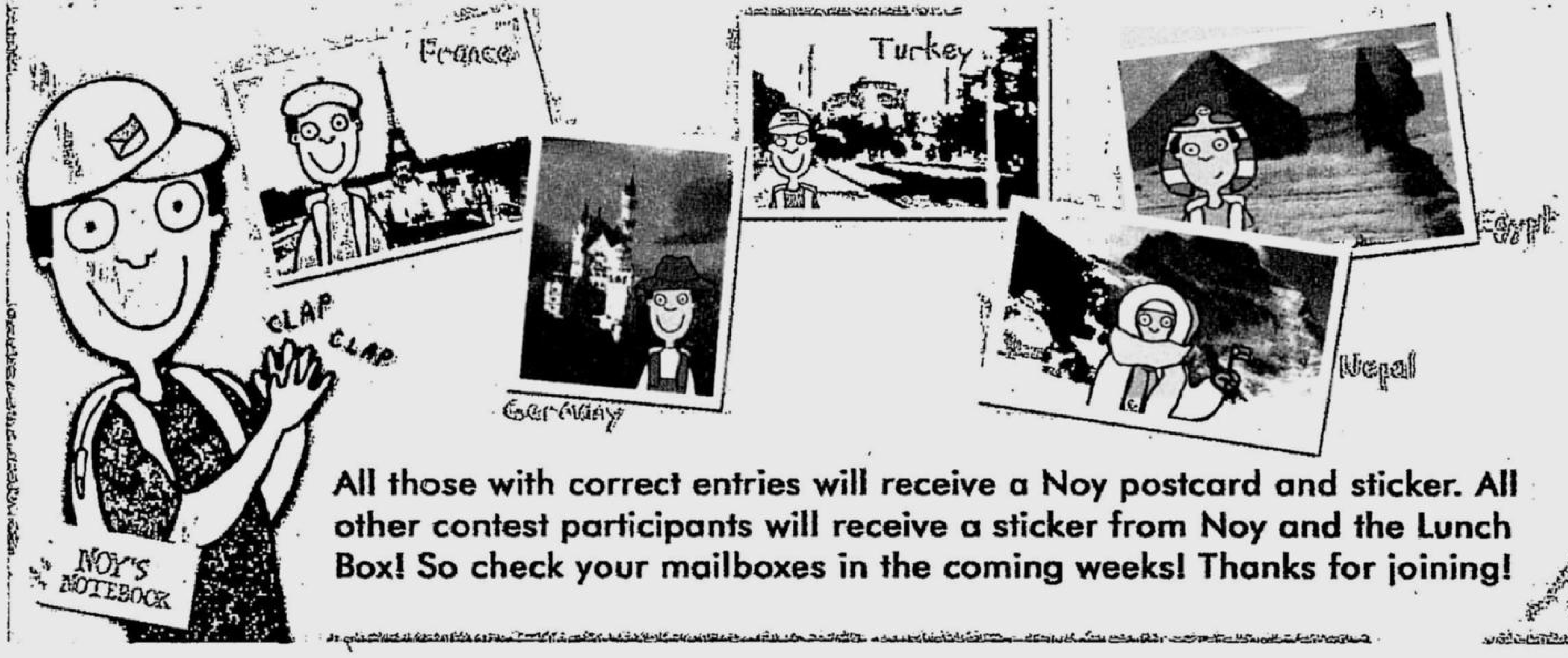
substitute each number for the corresponding letter in the alphabet. 1=A, 2=B and so on



ANSWER: echolocation

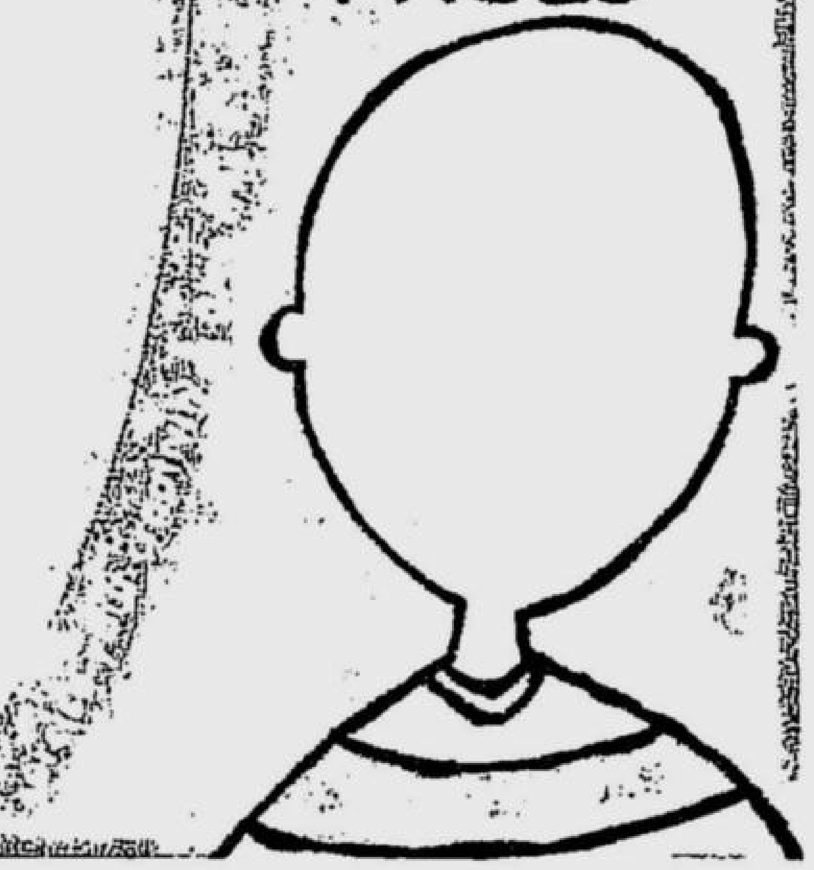
NOY CONGRATULATES...

All of you who joined me as I went round the world. Let's take a look back at this incredible trip!


France
Turkey
Egypt
CLAP
CLAP
Germany
Nepal
NOY'S NOTEBOOK

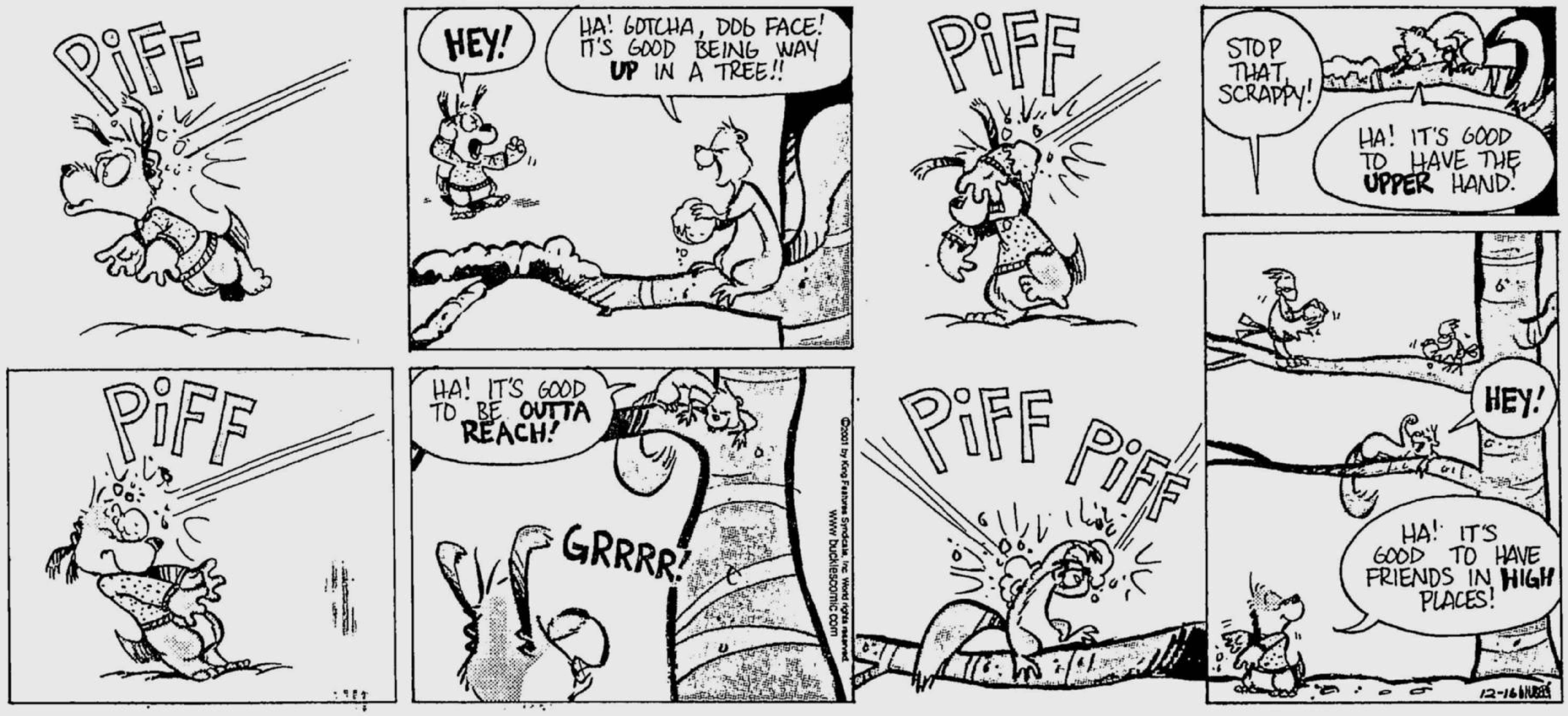
All those with correct entries will receive a Noy postcard and sticker. All other contest participants will receive a sticker from Noy and the Lunch Box! So check your mailboxes in the coming weeks! Thanks for joining!

MAKING FACES



BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


PIFF
HEY!
HA! GOTCHA, DOG FACE! IT'S GOOD BEING WAY UP IN A TREE!!
PIFF
STOP THAT SCRAPPY!
HA! IT'S GOOD TO HAVE THE UPPER HAND!
PIFF
HA! IT'S GOOD TO BE OUTTA REACH!
GRRRR!
PIFF PIFF
HEY!
HA! IT'S GOOD TO HAVE FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES!
12-16

©2001 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
www.bucklescomic.com